MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon

Subcommittees Meet -- The Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. subcommittees began meeting in Qiryat Shemona to discuss security arrangements, foreign troop withdrawals, bilateral relations, and guarantees, Beirut radio reported. Lebanon is expected to submit new ideas to the Israelis, according to another Beirut radio report.

Sharon on Early Warning Stations -- Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon stated that the early warning stations which Israel is seeking in Lebanon would not be used to gather information on the Arab states and would require fewer than 700 soldiers, Jerusalem radio reported citing a Sharon speech. The defense minister referred to the stations as "antiterror supervision stations" whose purpose is "to prevent" the return of terrorists to Lebanon, adding that Israel will need the stations only until Lebanon has rebuilt its security forces. In remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Sharon said the United States is seeking maximum reduction of Israel's war gains and that it has been pressuring Beirut not to advance too rapidly in the negotiations, according to the radio. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said Israel is not interested in a confrontation with the United States and wants to resolve differences of opinion through dialogue, the radio noted. According to the radio, Israel is waiting for Habib's consultations in Washington to end and it is hoped that they will "rescue" the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations from the current deadlock.

Military, Security Situation -- The meeting between the commander of the IDF Northern Command and officers of the U.S. force in Lebanon scheduled for 26 January to discuss the disputes between the IDF and U.S. Marines over the border line between the forces in Lebanon was postponed for "technical" reasons, according to IDF Radio. Meanwhile, Israel has begun the installation of an early warning station overlooking the An-Naqurah border area, Idhin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported citing "arrivals from the south."

PLO

After PLO Executive Committee meetings in Aden on 25 and 26 January, a PLO spokesman announced that the PLO leadership has agreed on the outlines of the draft political program to be submitted to the forthcoming PNC meeting in Algiers, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The PLO leadership also stressed the need to hold a new Palestinian-Jordanian meeting, the spokesman added.

Earlier, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said after a PLO military parade in Aden that reports of Palestinian disunity are false. In his speech, which was broadcast live by Aden radio, 'Arafat denied rumors of a dispute between the PLO and Syria and asserted that Palestinian-Syrian relations are unshakable. He said critics of Soviet arms should "keep their mouths shut," pointing out that the PLO had fought with Soviet arms in Beirut. Reaffirming PLO support for liberation movements worldwide, 'Arafat said the PLO forces in Yemen are a "special rapid deployment force" for every revolution that seeks PLO assistance.

The radio also provided live coverage of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's speech at the parade. The PDRY leader described the Reagan plan as "no less dangerous than the Camp David plot" and claimed that imperialist and Zionist forces are continuing to conspire against Syria, Libya, Algeria, and the PDRY.

Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said all members of the PLO Executive Committee and Fatah's Central Committee had arrived in Aden or were expected to arrive there on 26 January. The radio did not say whether other Palestinian leaders such as George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah would attend.

Morocco

King Hassan II Interview -- King Hassan II has addressed an "official" invitation to host any conference or debate that would lead to a meeting between the Israelis and the PLO, according to a Rabat radio broadcast of the king's interview with French journalists. The king also stated that he has decided to ask France to build nuclear stations in Morocco, particularly on the green coastal belt, to provide electricity.

Death of Southern Area Commander -- The director of the office of the king's aide de camps and commander of the Royal Armed Forces in the southern area, General Ahmed Dlimi, died in a car accident, Rabat radio announced citing a statement by the Ministry of the Royal Household, Protocol, and Chancellory. The statement termed the general's death a great loss to Morocco and to the Royal Armed Forces.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak arrived in Washington and met with Secretary of State Shultz, MENA reported. Mubarak stopped over in Paris for talks with the French external relations minister during his flight to the United States, Cairo radio noted.

Iran

Communists Executed; Criticism of USSR -- In Amol 22 members of the Union of Iranian Communists were executed for perpetrating "frightful crimes" in the area last year during which nearly 100 "hezbollahi" were killed, Tehran radio reported. The trial of this particular communist faction is not just a trial of any one person or group, but a trial of the entire process of Marxism, blasphemy, and atheism in Iran, the radio stressed in a related commentary. All of Iran's communists, even those calling themselves followers of the imam's line, have supported the activities of "counterrevolutionaries," the radio contended.

Meanwhile, an AZADEGAN editorial reported by IRNA criticized Soviet Middle East policy for its "doubledealing," pointing out that while Soviet propaganda portrays Marxism as partial toward Islam, the Soviet Union has rushed arms to Iraq and sent troops to Afghanistan.

PRC Delegation -- A PRC delegation headed by adviser to the foreign minister He Ying arrived in Tehran for talks on the expansion of PRC-Iranian relations, IRNA reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PALESTINIAN ANNIVERSARY MARKED IN PDRY

Further Arrivals

JN261712 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the PNC, and Executive Committee members Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], Abu Mahir al-Yamani [Ahmad al-Yamani], Talal Naji, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Hamid Abu Sittah, and Jamal as-Surani have arrived in Aden. Fatah Central Committee members Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym] have also arrived. The rest of the Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee members are expected to arrive today.

Other members of the Palestinian factions who arrived were Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front; 'Ali Ishaq, member of the Political Department; 'Arbi 'Awwad, member of the Political Department of the Palestinian Communist Party; and military delegations of As-Sa'Iqah and the Popular Struggle Front.

PDRY Chairman's Speech

GF261527 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1305 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Speech by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, at end of military parade in PDRY to mark 18th anniversary of Fatah and Palestinian revolution in (Al-'Urud) square in (Khur Mattar), Aden -- live]

[Text] O masses of our Yemeni people and our Palestinian people: [chants] On behalf of the YSP, the Supreme People's Council, and the Council of Ministers, and on behalf of the masses of our Yemeni people, I extend to you greeting of struggle and revolution and congratulate you for this glory that is to be added to the Palestinian people's record, which is already full of victories and heroism. It is a glory that confirms the continuation of the Palestinian revolution and the continuation of the steadfastness of its combatant factions as well as the continuation of the strengthening of the alliance of struggle and destiny with the forces of the Arab and world national liberation movements.

I greet you as you celebrate the 18th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution in the land of the Yemeni revolution, in Revolutionary Aden. [applause] I salute your steadfast will and your heroic determination as you carry the gun in defense of your legitimate rights and in the cause of returning to your homeland and building your free and independent state under the leadership of the PLO. [applause]

On the occasion of the sparking of the Palestinian revolution which we are celebrating, we extend greetings of struggle to all the fighters and strugglers of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah [applause], and to its struggling leader Yasir 'Arafat. [applause] When we greet you in revolutionary Aden, we greet the convoys of the heroic martyrs and all strugglers and fighters of the factions of the Palestinian revolution as well as all the steadfast Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. We affirm to you that our hearts, limbs, blood, and everthing we possess will always remain with you and on your side. [applause]

We have the right to say to you with pride that the Palestinian revolution is becoming stronger and more solid and that the march of the Palestinian national liberation movement and the march of the national liberation movement of our peoples is expanding and taking root. The immortal battle of Beirut and the steps of the U.S.-supported Israeli military invasion of Lebanon have demonstrated the failure of the expansionist plots of aggression to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and strike at the Arab national liberation movement to subjugate our Arab peoples. It exposed all the cards by which the American Arabs sought to falsify and beautify the ugly face of the U.S. Government and to belittle the value and importance of Arab-Soviet friendship and isolate our Arab peoples from their true allies and loyal friends.

If the official Arab stand was characterized by impotence, silence, and laxity in the face of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught, the stand of the Arab masses has become and continues to be more steadfast in the face of imperialist-Zionist onslaught, the stand of the Arab masses has become and continues to be more steadfast in the face of imperialist-Zionist challenges and more aware of their conspiratorial background and their aims of aggression. This stand has been embodied by the flow of the waves of volunteers to fight in the ranks of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. It has also been embodied in the outburst of indignation and wrath among the Arab masses from the Atlantic to the Gulf.

We in the PDRY, our party, government, and people, have been [applause] We have been anxious, we have been anxious to confront this aggression. We invited volunteers to fight in the ranks of the Palestinian resistance. Yemeni blood [applause] has fused with Palestinian blood. [applause] We have also called for the mobilization of Arab potentials and capabilities and for utilizing them in our battle against the Zionist enemy. We shall always support the Palestinian revolution. We shall not retreat. [applause], we shall not retreat from our principled and steadfast stands, whatever the circumstances and whatever the challenges.

Sisters and brothers, it is necessary to say that the Camp David plot has been, and continues to be, the most serious link in the chain of aggression by the imperialist-Zionist alliance. The Israeli occupation of Lebanon is one of the principal results of this plot and is a prelude to the liquidation of political liberation and a prelude to the escalation of the political and military activity that is hostile to our Arab peoples. Our Arab peoples and their progressive and nationalist forces and regimes have confronted the Camp David plot and made great sacrifices as a result of the fall of As-Sadat's Egypt in the implementation of this plot and the involvement of some other parties in it. Those who are under the illusion that they can continue to beatify the face of the United States and gain acceptance for the Camp David plot through various methods and forms must realize that they are confronting the Arab masses -- the [word indistinct] fleets and funds of the United States and Israel can never, and will never, succeed in subjugating the Arab masses and compelling them to capitulate.

Brothers, our Arab region is witnessing constant escalation of expansionist activity and aggression waged by the imperialist-Zionist alliance. It reached its zenith with the spread of military bases and warships, the organization of provocative exercises in some Arab territories and along some Arab shores, and also with Israel's occupation of Lebanon and the ugly massacres -- as in the Sabra and Shatila camps -- and the Zionist settlement of the occupied Arab territories.

Within this framework, Reagan's plan emerged -- a plan that is no less dangerous than the Camp David plot and no different from it in either form or content. The Reagan plan impudently consolidates the United States' policy of support for Israel and of Israel and of hostility to the interests and rights of the peoples of our Arab nation and seeks to [perpetrate] israel's occupation of the occupied Arab territories and [day] the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland and to their independent state. Therefore, we affirm our complete rejection of Reagan's conspiratorial plan, whose only objective is to consolidate the results of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and to place the sovereignty and destiny of all of our Arab peoples under U.S. and Israeli domination.

Brothers and sisters, our celebration of the 18th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution is taking place amid the intensification of the U.S.-Zionist-reactionary plot against all factions of the Arab national liberation movement. The United States has recently strengthened the RDF by [word indistinct] the military installations of its bases in some Arab countries. The activity of warships in the Mediterranean, the Red Sea, the Arabian Gulf, and the Horn of Africa has increased, and provocative military exercises on the territory of some Arab countries have been escalated.

All the said U.S. political and military activity has been accompanied by the Zionist entity's persistence in consolidating its occupation of Lebanon and the other Arab territories and its continued disregard for UN resolutions and world public opinion in their call for a just peace in the Middle East and for recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's rights, including their right to establish their independent state.

At the same time, the imperialist and Zionist forces are continuing in their conspiratorial activity against steadfast Syria and against the progressive Arab regimes of Libya, Algeria, and the PDRY as well as socialist [word indistinct] and all [word indistinct] the Arab and African national liberation movement so as to weaken their steadfastness, strike at them, and restore imperialist domination over the Arab region. This requires the strengthening of the unity of the factions of the Arab national liberation movement and developing the methods and forms of its struggle so as to ensure the mobilization of Arab capabilities and the [word indistinct] of the objectives of imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots.

We in the PDRY are fully prepared to participate with all available resources in the defense of our just causes in order to resist all aggressive challenges to the destiny of our Arab peoples. This is the path we pursue and from which we will not deviate, whatever the difficulties.

Sisters and brothers, in this difficult period in the history of our Arab nation we are facing important and revolutionary tasks, foremost of which is the strengthening of Palestinian national unity and emphasizing that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, strengthening the strategic alliance between the Palestinian revolution and Syria, which (?stands) on the confrontation line against the Zionist enemy, and bolstering the steadfastness and struggle of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement so as to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and safeguard Lebanon's unity, Arabism, and sovereignty.

Efforts must also be intensified to improve the situation of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and coordinate among its various institutions and turn them into an effective force in our Arab people's struggle for national liberation, and develop the forms of the struggle alliance with the factions of the world revolutionary movement, foremost of which is the Soviet Union, and the other socialist countries. [applause]

We in the PDRY will continue our march along this path, which is compatible with the interests of the Arab national liberation movement and with the revolutionary values and experiences of struggle of our Yemeni people and our Arab peoples. We shall continue to place all our material and human resources at the disposal of the cause of continuing the struggle against the various forms of aggression, expansion, and conspiracy to which our Arab peoples are subjected.

We shall also continue to adhere to our principled stand in support of all efforts made to strengthen Palestinian national unity that opposes imperialism, Zionism, and all capitulatory and liquidatory plans. We shall continue to reject all conspiratorial attempts by and plans of forces that want to act on behalf of the Palestinian people and sidestep their legitimate and sole representative, the PLO.

Brothers and sisters, the Palestinian question has won broad international support. The struggle to consolidate the Palestinian people's just right has become an indivisible part of the struggle to safeguard world peace in view of the fact that the Middle East is one of the most important tense areas that is threatened by U.S. imperialism's tendency toward aggression.

It has become clear, through many instances and events, that the continued exacerbation of imperialism's propensity toward aggression inflicts great harm on the world's security and stability and on the life of the whole of mankind. The imperialist forces which support Israel's policy of aggression and expansion and deploy their military bases and warships along the shores and on the territory of some Arab countries are carrying out in various parts of the world a policy of aggression through the arms race and the production and stockpiling of neutron or nuclear bombs, through the creation of hotbeds of tension and war, the escalation of plotting against nationalist countries and struggling peoples, and by launching psychological warfare so as to shake the entire world's security and stability.

This policy, however, is meeting with widespread resistance by all peoples and forces that seek liberation, socialism, and world peace, foremost among which are the countries of the socialist camp led by the Soviet Union.

In this regard we wish to reaffirm our full support for all peaceful initiatives proposed by the Soviet Union, both the intiatives to solve complex international problems or to those to limit the arms race and combat nuclear weapons. All these initiatives and responsible stands embody the principles of the Soviet Union's peaceful policy, a policy that is compatible with the interests of all mankind and serves the cause of world peace.

Sisters and brothers, Palestine has a special place in our hearts [applause] and minds and in the hearts and minds of all honorable and good strugglers. Amid the welter of challenges, ordeals, and hardships, the ties of struggle between the Yemeni and Palestinian peoples are strengthened [applause] -- ties that have been baptized in Yemeni and Palestinian blood in the (?arena) of joint struggle. Your celebration today, which is embraced by revolutionary Aden, is but an expression of the depth of the ties of struggle between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions. [applause]

Let us all continue along this path. Let us together intensify our joint struggle against the enemies of our Arab peoples and for the sake of preserving the liberation gains that have been achieved with blood and great sacrifices. Hand in hand, together until victory. Thank you. [applause]

'Arafat Rally Speech

GF261903 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1335 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Chairman, after military parade in Aden to mark 18th anniversary of Palestinian revolution -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful. To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight because they are wronged and verily God is most powerful for their aid. They are those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right, for no cause except that they say our Lord is God. [Koranic verse]

Brother Chairman Comrade 'Ali Nasir, comrade of path and hard march; my people; brothers and kin in the southern part: To you a greeting from this bleeding heart of the northern to this struggling and revolutionary southern part. Today, when we are celebrating in Aden the revolution, the steadfastness, and the pride, Brother 'Ali Nasir, we materialize this revolutionary meaning and revolutionary fusion that unites us as revolutionaries and as freemen on the territory of Yemen, in the southern part of Yemen, of Yemen, of Yemen.

Together, O brother and comrades in arms, we now celebrate under these auspices. This heart beats with revolution, warmth, stars, and light. We celebrate so as to declare from Aden to every spot in our homeland that this revolution is a giant, giant, giant, giant.

Together in Aden we celebrate the revolution in order to materialize together this legend of Beirut, steadfast Beirut, confrontation Beirut, and epical Beirut that was created by Yemeni blood with Lebanese blood, with Palestinian blood, with Arab blood to create a new dawn, a new era, and a new march for our Arab nation.

Yes, brothers, we celebrate today on the land of revolutionary Yemen so as to materialize all these meanings and to say to Reagan and to Begin that the exit from Beirut was not a fourth of fifth emigration but was revolutionary progress on the path to Palestine and on the path to Jerusalem.

We meet today on the land of revolutionary Aden between the wings of revolutionaries, true revolutionaries whose blood, O Brother 'Ali Nasir, mixed with the blood of their brothers in Lebanon to create this epic and this legend for their Arab nation; yes, to create this epic and legend and in order for us to say to our entire Arab nation loudly and through this rifle that what is usurped by force can be regained only by force. Yes, I say this for the near and the distant to hear me, and so that everyone hears me.

Those who search for submissive solutions have no place in this Arab region. The decision adopted by those revolutionaries in southern Lebanon [word indistinct] in Sidon, in Tyre, in Ash-Shuqayf, in An-Nabatiyah, in Ad-Damur, in Ash-Sha'biyat, In Khaldah, in Beirut, in Aden, and in every place where there are revolutionaries and freemen, whereever they are, not to surrender in this victorious march that is proceeding toward Jerusalem, toward Jerusalem, toward Jerusalem.

Together, brothers, we know that this wild and intense onslaught does not want to undermine the Palestinian revolution alone, but is aimed against every freemen, every honorable man, every democrat, and every progressive in this Arab nation. This onslaught which started against the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces is not aimed at Lebanon or Palestine alone, but is the U.S. decision and the U.S. conspiracy to control, oppress, and impose U.S. hegemony on this region. But I say to Reagan and to Begin and to all agents in this region, I say to them that this revolution -- as 'Abd an-Nasir said -- exists in order to continue and in order to succeed. Yes, I say this to them.

What happened in Beirut and what happened in southern Lebanon is nothing but the start of the battle, and the battle has its ups and downs, I say ups and downs. These military operation were decided upon by the Supreme Military Council of the Palestinian revolution during its meeting in the northern part, in San'a' when it decided to escalate the military action. What is taking place now behind enemy lines and there in our occupied land is nothing but the evidence and practical materialization of the rapid implementation of this military decision.

Brothers, what happened in Beirut was not an ordinary battle. What happened in Lebanon and what is happening in Lebanon now is nothing but as U.S. conspiracy. Now and more than any time before, we must be careful, alert, and conscious of the continuation of the conspiracy. The U.S. forces that Reagan decided to increase in number in Lebanon are an inseparable part, O Brother 'Ali Nasir, of these maneuvers of the 7th and 5th Fleets opposite the coasts of the PDRY or near it. This is a compact, continuing, and continuous chain. These plans...because nowadays, brothers, we are afflicted with a huge number of rumors and rumormongers who spread their sick dreams.

We live in this condition. Every day, they come up with a tune. Every day, they come up with a new maneuver. Every day, they come up with a new plan or proposals that are made at one time by the White House, at another time by someone whose name I can't and I don't wan to mention.

However, I tell them: Die in rage because the mountain is not shaken by wind. [applause] O mountain, no wind can shake you. I say this word, my brothers. I say this to tell people: Keep your cheap goods to yourselves.

One time they say: Palestinian unity is a little shaky. I tell them: The unity of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories is stronger than the blows of anybody. They must understand, it must be understood that this Palestinian unity is gigantic with roots that reach into the depths of this Arab territory, not only in Palestine but also in Yemen with its two parts, the northern and the southern. Is it not like that sir, 'Ali? They must understand this.

It is enough that I celebrate the anniversary of the Palestinian revolution and not only that of Fatah. After Beirut we adopted the decision to unite the revolution's military apparatus. My friend and comrade in arms, these forces are from all Palestinian organizations. [applause] I say this so that people of sick dreams dream far away from us. They -- ask by martyred brother Kamal 'Adwan -- said: Live your life and surrender. But we live our dreams and turn them into facts. [applause]

When we left Beirut, rumormongers began to spread the news in the region that there is a Palestinian-Syrian dispute. I say Syrian-Palestinian relations are just like these mountains before you: Nothing can shake them. [applause] They spread rumors. The 8-day battle ended. In these maneuvers, rumors, misguided media, and plans, they wanted to do whatever they could not do with this revolution during its siege. During the siege Begin sent me a letter -- and I beg Brother Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym] not to be angry -- in which he told me: I want to understand, are we besieging Beirut or are you besieging Tel Aviv? I told Abu Mahir: Send him another letter saying: In my siege in Beirut, I am besieging Tel Aviv and all the capitals that sympathize with Tel Aviv. I say this, our brothers, to appeal to you with the blood of the martyrs, the blood of Martyr Major General Sa'd Sayil, the blood of martyr Ghassan Kanafani, martyrs Abu 'Ali Iyad, Aba Sabri, 'Abdallah Siyam, Abu Tabikh, Zuhayr, Majid, 'Abd al-Fattah Hamud, Abu Yusuf an-Najjar, and Kamal Nasir. Tell all these great martyrs that the pledge is the pledge and the vow is the vow; the pledge is the pledge and the vow is the vow that the revolution will continue until Jerusalem, until Jerusalem, until Jerusalem.

Yes, on your behalf, brothers, I wholeheartedly greet these heroes in the camps and prisons of the enemy, in his mass camps, cells, and prisons, on you behalf, on behalf of all the free people in our Arab nation, on behalf of our free people in Yemen, Brother 'Ali Nasir, on behalf of our free people in every Arab spot, and on behalf of our friends in the socialist bloc, led by the friendly Soviet Union. [applause]

Here I have to say one word: All those who talk about Soviet arms must keep their mouths shut. We fought 88 days with Soviet arms from the friendly Soviet Union. [applause] I say this so that people do not talk very much, so that they keep their mouths shut. Part of the plot is not only to plant a wedge between Palestinians or between Palestinians and Arabs, but also between Palestinians and our Arab nation's most faithful allies, our brothers in the socialist bloc, led by the Soviet Union.

In the name of our revolutionaries, our Arab nation's revolutionaries, I convey to them greetings and gratitude. [applause] In the name of this gigantic revolution, I dessiminate all greetings to our friends in the socialist bloc, our friends in the non-aligned countries, our friends in the African countries, and our friends in the Islamic countries. I convey these greetings to them all and say to them: We have a promise to meet. Where? In Jerusalem, in Jerusalem, in Jerusalem. [applause]

Brothers, Reaganonce described the centers of terrorism as three: the Soviet Union, the PLO, and Cuba. Do you remember, Brother 'Ali Nasir, his well-known statement? Kirkpatrick, do you know her? She is their representative to the United Nations. During our siege she said: Do you know why we want to deal a final blow to them? She told our envoy: Because you back world liberation movements. I, from here, from Aden, and in front of my comrade in arms 'Ali Nasir, revolutionary 'Ali Nasir [applause], I tell them: We had hardly left Beirut when we issued our orders to continue to cooperate with all the world liberation movements. Let those who dislike this go to the ocean and drink it.

Yes, we are with all the world liberation movements and I tell them that these forces in front of you are a special rapid deployment force in Yemen for every revolution that seeks our assistance. [applause] I say this to make things crystal clear. Let those who dislike it go to the ocean and drink it. I say this and again say: Brothers, there are some people who are seeking capitulatory solutions, but there is no peace for the weak. There is no peace for weak and kneeling people; there is no peace except for the strong, who make peace through the barrel of the gun. It is the barrel of the gun which draws the map of the Middle East. [applause]

I say this to let those who are near and far hear me. The barrel of the gun is our way to Jerusalem to our democratic Palestinian state whose capital is Jerusalem. I tell those who are seekers of capitulation that there is no settlement, peace, stability, or security in the Middle East region at all at the expense of the Palestinian people's firm national rights, including their right to return, to self-determination, and to establish the independent Palestinian state whose capital is Jerusalem. [applause]

Last, I tell you: We pledge, pledge, vow, vow to stretch our bodies into a bridge to our comrades to cross it into Palestine, Jerusalem. It is revolution, revolution until victory. [chants of: "Revolution, revolution until victory"]

Arab Solidarity Committees Session

GF261937 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The Arab solidarity committees, which are meeting in Aden, have held their first session to discuss the working paper presented by AAPSO on the current situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian issue under the chairmanship of AAPSO Secretary General Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq. The meeting was attended by Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib, member of the central committee, deputy prime minister, chairman of the state's media committee, and chairman of the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity; representatives of the Arab solidarity committees, and their national leaderships.

The meeting will resume tomorrow to discuss the working paper. The meeting is expected to come out with an effective working program to support the Palestinian issue.

The meeting of the Arab solidarity committees was opened today at the hall of the scientific socialist high school for solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle. The opening session was attended by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee; Brother Nuri 'Abd ar-Razzaq, AAPSO secretary general; and members of the Arab solidarity committees.

'Arafat Addresses Committees

GF262038 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1520 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of Palestinian revolution forces, at opening session of meeting of Arab solidarity committees in Aden on 26 January -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The Israeli army was regarded as part of the U.S. RDF, with its advanced U.S. weapons. It was regarded as so.

I can reveal part of the talks with Comrade Andropov during the last visit to the Soviet Union. I talked to him about this global strategy. The United States was preparing this Israeli army to be a backing or a spearhead for the RDF, not only in our Arab region, but throughout the Middle East. However, I say: I do not need anyone. I say: This great legion was forged by the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces, by heroes from Yemen, with its southern and northern parts, who fought with us [applause], by the heroes and free people from our Arab nation who fought with us in this trench. [applause] This legion, our brothers, removed the Israeli army from the equation of global strategy as a spearhead for the RDF. Let me say it in the vernacular: Nowadays, they say in the Pentagon: This Israeli army, with all the arms we gave, all our backing and tactics, was facing two monkeys and one guard -- and that is what we really were — but was unable to do anything. And Sharon fought 79 days against the resistance in Beirut. [applause] Sharon, with all he had, fought 79 days against the resistance's revolutionaries in Beirut.

The battle of southern Lebanon and Beirut lasted 88 days. During this battle, Eytan said with all pride and arrogance: It should take 48 days, but we must finish it in 24 hours. They used a definite plan. Now, brothers, the White House and Pentagon are studying how the Israeli army failed the test, because it was not only a defeat but a massacre for the Israeli generals. You know this very well. The war was a massacre for the Israeli generals.

You know this very well. The war was a massacre for the Israeli generals. I say this, and if they return, we will return. They are welcome. The war has its tactics. I say this so that Sharon and Begin can hear me because the settlement of Mazra'et was shelled yesterday. [applause] I defy him. There is no peace except that imposed by our Arab nation. [applause] I say this because it was not by mere chance that this Israeli army failed the test.

Four days ago the White House studied the decision to increase the number of U.S. troops in Lebanon from 6,000 to 35,000, besides those they will use in the multinational force. Why? Because the Israeli army failed the test. It is not dependable in the global strategy. Under the cover they are using in Lebanon, they will bring 35,000 U.S. soldiers.

It is known, brothers, that the Americans want a radar station at Al-Baruk. They say to the Israelis: Plan for a radar station so that we will take it from you. They say this and so forth.

Brothers, I say this because I want to understand why they need 35,000 U.S. soldiers in an Arab territory east of the Mediterranean. It is, brothers, part of the U.S. exercises which, Brother 'Ali Nasir, are taking place side by side. Those are exercises on land and at sea. It is a U.S. plan to control this region.

We must, brothers, be frank and aware. Brothers, nothing can break the peoples' will, nothing can deter a people or a nation that wants to fight. This, brothers, is the course of life and revolutions. It does not change. I say this so that those who are near and far can understand that this land has seen many people: the Tartars, the Portugese, the British, the French, and many others. Now, brothers, these Zionists are trying to control this region. They will go, brothers, because this land is Arab and will remain Arab, Arab, Arab. [applause]

I have spoken for a long time. I am talking, my Brother Chairman, to my brothers. The pledge is the pledge and the vow is the vow. It is the vow of men to men and the pledge of freemen to freemen that this torch, which our dear brother has honored by lighting, will continue to blaze until we reach Jerusalem, God willing.

I want to tell you something, dear brothers, and I want this to be heard by the entire Arab nation: There is no peace for weak and kneeling people. Peace is for strong people, and this revolution is gigantic. Let this be heard by Reagan and Begin: This revolution, as 'Abd an-Nasir said, was born to live, and I say: It was born to be victorious, victorious, victorious. [applause] The battle is fierce and be fierce in it. [applause]

Reception for 'Arafat

GF261142 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, hosted a reception in honor of his Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and the brother Palestinian leaders and participants in the Arab solidarity committees now in Aden to participate in the meetings of the said committees, which oversee solidarity efforts with the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people.

PLO Executive Committee Meeting

JN261645 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chaired a lengthy PLO Executive Committee meeting in Aden yesterday evening. The committee is scheduled to resume its meetings this evening.

Conflict With Syria Denied

JN270705 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The Palestinian leadership has ended its meetings in Aden. Regarding these meetings and their results, in addition to other Palestinian affairs, let us listen to Ghassan al-Ma'luf:

Following its meetings in Aden, the Palestinian leadership stressed that the PNC will convene in Algiers on 14 February. A PLO spokesman pointed out that agreement has been reached on the broad lines of the draft political program which will be submitted to the PNC. He added that the Palestinian leadership stressed the need to hold a new Palestinian-Jordanian meeting in light of the final results of the Arab seven-member committee's mission.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat stressed yesterday evening his rejection of all solutions that ignore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including the U.S. President's plan. He reaffirmed that the Palestinian resistance will continue its armed struggle as long as its demands are not met.

'Arafat indicated the close ties between the Palestinian revolution and the socialist and nonaligned countries. 'Arafat denied the presence of any conflict between the PLO and Syria, adding that relations with Damascus are strong.

PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who attended with 'Arafat a Palestinian military parade in Aden, strongly criticized those Arabs who are trying to harm the friendly relations between some Arab states and the USSR. He also criticized U.S. policy in the Middle East.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS ON PNC MEETING IN ALGIERS

'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad

GF212000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 21 Jan 83

[Text] Amman, 21 Jan (WAKH) -- A Palestinian official has announced that the PLO cannot continue its political move based on the Arab peace plan or any other plan without the approval of the PNC during its meeting in Algiers on 14 February. 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, PLO Executive Committee member, said the Palestinian leadership, represented in the Executive Committee, is responsible to the PNC, which elects it.

In a statement carried by QNA today, the Palestinian official said the next PNC meeting will be one of the most important and gravest meetings in the history of the Palestinian struggle. The council, he said, will shoulder on the Palestinian people's behalf the burden of the historic decision to define the line of the Palestinian cause, its future, and the formula of settlement satisfactory to the Palestinians following the exit from Beirut. The PNC's decision at its coming meeting will be a referendum for the Palestinian people on the Palestinian leadership, he added.

'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad said the PNC's final statement -- with its resolutions, principles, and instructions -- will be the sharpest weapon in the hands of the new PLO leadership to face its responsibilities to the Palestinian people, with its wide and varied sectors among the masses and before the entire world. In accordance with the democratic concept, he said, the next PNC meeting will be a session on confidence in the policy of the current Palestinian leadership. It will define for the new leadership, after the election of the Executive Committee, its political, military, and organizationl program in view of the proposed options for the current and future stages.

'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad said the PNC will discuss the Fes Arab peace plan and other initiatives and projects, future relations with Jordan, and detailed proposed formulas which are being studied by legal experts and officials from both the Jordanian and Palestinian sides. Meetings between the two sides will continue after guidelines are put forth for these talks. The most readily acceptable formula to the PLO on the parties and the framework of negotiations is the presence of the PLO within an Arab delegation like the Arab seven-member committee and within the framework of an international conference, the Security Council, or the United Nations, he noted. He continued by saying that a program for Palestinian national unity, especially in the military and organizational fields, will be one of the main issues proposed to the PNC. It has been decided to form a Palestinian supreme military council and affiliated institutions of monilization, guidance, and other areas.

There is no inclination to increase the current number of members of the Executive Committee, which is the supreme PLO executive authority, he concluded.

PLO Representative in Beirut

JN240914 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Beirut (REUTER) -- A crucial session next month of the Palestine National Council (parliament-in-exile) is likely to break with tradition and fail to reach a consensus, according to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative in Beirut.

In a television interview recorded Saturday, Shafiq al-Hut said the council, which has so far worked by consensus, would probably be split into a ruling majority and an opposition.

But he said such a "democratic split" was preferable to what he called a "paralysing consensus."

The council is due to meet in Algiers on Feb. 14 for its first session since the PLO leadership and thousands of fighters were forced out of Beirut by last summer's Israeli invasion.

Supporters and critics of PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat have been deeply divided over his proposals for a peaceful end to the Middle East dispute and his rapprochement with Jordan.

Mr. al-Hut said: "We managed in past years to come out with some sort of national consensus in our resolutions, but this time I wonder if we can come out with a consensus."

The council, which last met in April, 1982, is the only body empowered to change PLO policy.

Moderate supporters of Mr. 'Arafat have been hoping that Palestinian opinion would rally around the commando leader, but sustained criticism of his policies from Syria and pro-Damascus commando groups have dampened hopes of a consensus.

Mr. al-Hut said he expected more than one political programme to be presented to the session, in contrast to previous occasions when the PLO leadership generally ironed out differences before council meetings.

The last session was held in Damascus, and the choice of Algiers has been seen as a bid to hold the meeting on neutral ground.

On a separate topic, Mr. al-Hut said he believed that 90 per cent of all commando actions against Israeli occupation forces in Lebanon were carried out by Lebanese fighters rather than by Palestinian commandos.

Mr. al-Hut, who is accredited to the Lebanese Government, is the senior of two PLO officials who were allowed to remain in Beirut when the commandos were forced to leave.

PFLP's Bassam Abu Sharif

JN260819 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 08000 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, PFLP Political Bureau member, has stated in Damascus that at its upcoming session in Algiers the PNC will empower the PLO Executive Committee and its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, to defend Palestinian interests in both the Arab and international arenas. Abu Sharif added that 'Arafat will be given freedom to carry out the following program:

1. The PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This means that no other body or state should be authorized to represent the Palestinian people.

2. The issue of relations with Jordan should not be proposed before an independent Palestinian state is established.

3. There should be no contacts with the Egyptian regime.

GULF AFFAIRS

PDRY-OMAN BORDER COMMITTEE ENDS SECOND SESSION

GF261456 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1305 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Jan (WAKH) -- The second session of the joint committee for settling the border problem between Oman and the PDRY, which is being held in Abu Dhabi, concluded today in an atmosphere of optimism reflected in the statements given by the heads of the delegations taking part in the meetings, particularly the two concerned delegations. During today's 1-hour session, matters dealing with the border issue were discussed in light of the ducuments presented by the two delegations. The committee also listened to the views of the two concerned sides on settling their border problems. Today's session was ended in order to allow time for further side consultations among the members of the participating delegations with the aim of reviewing the positions and drawing them closer in an attempt to hold a third session this evening, which is expected to lead to important results.

Statements made by heads of the delegations participating in the committee meetings after yesterday's session reflected optimism about the results of the committee meetings.

The head of the Omani delegation, Muhammad 'Ali al-Ghutaybi, expressed his optimism. He said that yesterday, in a sincere fraternal atmosphere, the two sides discussed all the matters dealing with the borders and expressed a firm desire to reach an accord on this matter. He emphasized that the two sides made enormous progress during yesterday's meeting.

The meetings of the PDRY-Omani border committee being held in Abu Dhabi are expected to lead to positive results for two reasons. The first is that the two countries have a strong deisre to settle their differences and establish good-neighborly relations between the two peoples. The second reason is that the UAE and Kuwait -- which are taking part in these meetings -- are exerting enormous efforts to make these meetings successful, owing to the fact that they are members of the GCC and they care for spreading security and stability in the area in addition to establishing firm cooperation relations among the peoples. Moreover, the side meetings and consultations held yesterday and today by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, UAE Foreign Affairs Ministry under secretary and head of the UAE delegation, and Dr Tariq ar-Razzuqi, director of the Legal Department at the Kuwait Foreign Affairs Ministry, reflect the interest shown by the two countries and their determination to reach positive results and set a framework for an agreement solving the problems between the PDRY and OMAN.

GCC COUNTRIES MAY HOLD EMERGENCY OIL MEETINGS

GF261536 Doha QNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (QNA) -- Press reports noted here today that contacts took place yesterday between Kuwait and a number of Arab capitals to discuss the possibility of holding an emergency meeting of GCC foreign affairs and petroleum ministers to confront the petroleum-related developments and the resulting political impact.

The Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN quoted reliable sources that the current stage which the Arab world is passing through is destructive and that the division of the Arabs into two basic axes will have very grave results that will weaken the Arab stance in international organizations. The paper quoted these sources as saying that the current Arab contacts are aimed at holding a high-level emergency meeting to end the deterioration in relations among the Arab League countries.

These sources concluded by noting that the Gulf countries have only one option -- which they are obliged to undertake. This option is to sell petroleum at a price lower than that of the other countries. The source indicated that this option will create a lot of difficulties for the Arab countries and the OPEC countries before they gain control of the situation.

UAE

PETROLEUM MINISTER WARNS AGAINST PRICE WAR

GF270708 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Jan (WAM) -- UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has warned that the occurrence of a petroleum war will lead to grave problems which the whole world will suffer from, and may result in the collapse of the international monetary system.

In a comprehensive statement, he talked about the petroleum situation following the collapse of the Geneva conference on Monday. He said that some of the OPEC countries violated the set petroleum quotas and provided the market with extra quantities of petroleum at low prices. He added that the UAE exerted strenuous efforts to heal the rifts that affected the OPEC [countries] in the previous meetings but these countries resorted to increasing their production shares and continued to provide further discounts which caused the petroleum market situation to deteriorate. Moreover, what has intensified the situation further is the policies of some of the petroleum-producing countries which are not members of OPEC, which have resorted to producing petroleum to their utmost capacities.

The petroleum minister said: We left for Geneva with the firm determination to settle the disputes and reach suitable solutions, but we were surprised at the conference that some of the OPEC countries were not serious in their stances. They were determined to continue making discounts and stick with their high production averages. Moreover, Yahaya Dikko, adviser to the Nigerian president on petroleum and energy affairs, adopted an unfriendly stance during the conference toward the Gulf member-countries which have tolerated the market situation and his biased stance toward the Gulf countries for the past year.

He said: I have warned that we might resort to the final treatment, which is the cauterization of the whole problem [ad-dawa' al-akhir wa huwa al-kayy], and I can see that happening before my eyes -- now that the conference ended in a fiasco with no agreement on pricing, on the distribution of quotas, nor on a new OPEC production ceiling. He stressed: We are not prepared to shoulder responsibilities alone, especially the responsibilities of those countries which fish in troubled waters. I believe that the next few days will unveil the facts behind the so-called OPEC ceiling and the official price.

Dr al-'Utaybah pointed out that the state and the people of the UAE made a lot of sacrifices to maintain OPEC's unity; the UAE's average daily production has been reduced from 2.2 million barrels to 1.1 million barrels. He said: As a result of this sharp drop in production, our revenues from petroleum have decreased. So, we may face huge financial problems that will limit our capabilities to meet expenditures on development projects; therefore, we should reveal this situation and then decide on an average production rate that is in accordance with our national needs. He added that there is an urgent need to review the entire situation and decide on an appropriate production rate while "at the same time we will continue to hold contacts with the other Gulf countries which share the same view and we will coordinate stands with them."

He said: We believe that the knife is poised and that we should not continue to move in the same direction; rather, we should produce petroleum at a rate that meets our commitments to our citizens.

The minister expressed fear of the occurrence of a petroleum war among the petroleum-producing countries. "If a price war breaks out and the countries begin to take part in a race of lowering prices, then the problems we will face will be very grave and serious." He continued: These problems will not be limited to one country or a group of countries but to the whole world, which will suffer as a result. The international monetary system will collapse and the main currencies will be affected; moreover, the banking system will be shaken by a devastating earthquake."

He continued by saying that "if the petroleum crisis continues to intensify it will take 3-5 years to solve this crisis. But if the situation deteriorates, the time required will extend into many years and everybody must realize this fact."

PDRY

BULGARIAN PARTY DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS IN ADEN

Arrival in Aden

GF221956 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] A Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] delegation led by Comrade Stanishev, a secretary of the BCP Central Committee, arrived in Aden this morning on a visit that will last for several days in response to an invitation from the YSP Central Committee. During its visit, the delegation will meet with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and other party officials. It will also hold official talks with a YSP delegation on bilateral relations and the means of furthering them, on political developments and on a number of issues of common interest. It will acquaint itself with the YSP's experience and the accomplishments that have been achieved in our country under its leadership.

The delegation was received at the airport by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Mahmud Ahmad an-Najashi, member of the Central Committee; and a number of officials in the Central Committee Secretariat.

Meeting With Chairman

GF231759 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office at the Central Committee Secretariat this afternoon Comrade Stanishev, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee, and his accompanying party delegation.

During the meeting, which was held in an amicable and friendly atmosphere, the issues of developing the cooperation relations between the PDRY and People's Republic of Bulgaria; the Arab and international developments, particularly the issues of mutual concern; bilateral relations and the spheres of their development were discussed.

The brother chairman assessed the successes during recent years in developing Yemeni-Bulgarian cooperation and friendship. He also assessed the aid provided by Bulgaria to contribute to developing the bases of our national economy.

On his part, Comrade Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, expressed the appreciation and satisfaction of the Bulgarian communists and people for the successes which are being achieved by the PDRY and the YSP. He stressed the importance of efforts to develop cooperation between the two friendly parties and peoples.

The meeting was attended by Bulgarian Ambassador in Aden Comrade Dimo Khristov Kamburov.

Talks Begin

GF231808 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Official talks began at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat this evening between the YSP delegation led by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, and the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] delegation led by Comrade Stanishev, a secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

During the talks, the two sides noted the development of comradely relations between the two friendly parties, peoples, and countries, which are getting deeper and closer within the friendship and cooperation agreement between the two countries. The two sides also expressed the two parties' determination to continue to develop relations in the service of their common struggle to curb the adventurous, aggressive, imperialist policy. Views were exchanged on a number of international and regional developments and on the means of struggle alliance between the parties and peoples in the two friendly countries to counter the dangers and threats posed by the aggressive policy of the new U.S. Administration and its allies.

Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir highly evaluated the Warsaw consultative meeting held from 4 to 5 January 1983. He appreciated the role Bulgaria is playing in consolidating peace and cooperation in Europe to turn the Balkans into a region of peace and cooperation.

On his part, Comrade Stanishev expressed his admiration for the accomplishments being achieved in the PDRY under the YSP leadership. He also praised our country's foreign policy, which is based on the principles of international solidarity and peaceful coexistence.

Second Meeting With Chairman

GF251722 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received in his office at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat today Comrade Stanishev, a secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee, and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, means of developing cooperation relations between the YSP and the BCP were discussed.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, Political Bureau member and secretary of the Central Committee, and Comrade Kamburov, the Bulgarian ambassador in Aden.

MUBARAK, CHEYSSON DISCUSS MIDEAST ISSUES AT ORLY

NC251542 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met this afternoon with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson when the president stopped over at Orly Airport in Paris while on his way to Washington, where he will arrive this evening.

President Mubarak discussed with the French external relations minister matters pertaining to the Middle East. The two sides expressed their concern at the slow progress in the peace negotiations between Lebanon and Israel with the participation of the United States.

President Mubarak left Paris Orly Airport after spending 30 minutes there on his way to Washington, where he will hold talks with President Reagan tomorrow.

MUBARAK ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON, MAKES STATEMENT

NC262240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2207 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived at Andrews Air Force base at 1635 Washington time at the start of his visit to the United States.

President Mubarak was welcomed by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotis and the Egyptian ministers who are in Washington.

The president then boarded a helicopter and proceeded to the helicopter landing area in front of the Washington Monument, behind the White House. He was welcomed upon his arrival there by Secretary of State George Shultz and his wife. The president was accompanied in the helicopter by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal.

The president, accompanied by George Shultz, then proceeded to the Egyptian Embassy, where the president will be staying.

His excellency made a speech in which he said: I have just arrived at the start of my visit to the United States, and since departed President Anwar as-Sadat established the good relations between our two countries. [sentence as received] We must continue these relations, make them stronger than they have been. I am looking forward to meeting President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz to exchange views, discuss the possibilities of pushing the peace process in faster steps than at present, work for the withdrawal of foreign froces from Lebanon, and discuss all the events in the area, including the Iraq-Iran war and bilateral relations between Egypt and the United States.

The president said: The discussions will deal with the problem of Lebanon and the Palestinian problem, which is the core of the conflict. We shall attempt to reach an end to the Iraq-Iran war and we shall discuss problems in the area.

The president added that during his stopover in Paris he met with Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson and exchanged viewpoints and that he will meet with French President Mitterrand during his forthcoming visit to Paris on his return to Egypt.

Talks With Shultz

NC270557 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2325 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak held a 45-minute meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tonight. The meeting, which was held in the president's place of residence at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington, was attended on the Egyptian side by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, and Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Ashraf Ghurbal. It was attended on the U.S. side by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotis, Ambassador Philip Habib, and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton. President Mubarak began the meeting with a separate meeting with George Shultz which lasted about 20 minutes.

In a statement to MENA Dr Butrus Ghali said that the U.S. side [words indistinct] move during the coming few weeks to give a new impetus to the peace process so as to implement the U.S. President's initiative. He added that the U.S. side also pointed out the need to solve the Lebanese question first and to withdraw the foreign forces from Lebanon because this will give confidence to the area's states and encourage Jordan and the Palestinians to enter the peace negotiations.

Ghali's Activities in Washington

NC261944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Washington, 26 Jan (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met here today with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam. The meeting was attended by Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghurbal. It dealt with the topics that will be discussed by Presidents Reagan and Mubarak at a summit meeting to be held in the White House tomorrow.

Yesterday, Dr Ghali met with Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Crocker. Last night Dr Ghali delivered a lecture at the American National Institute for International Relations in which he spoke about the difficulties faced by moves for the sake of peace in the Middle East area and for solving the Palestinian issue, by these difficulties in the U.S., Israeli, or Arab sphere.

In his lecture Dr Ghali stressed the leading role Egypt is playing in the area for the sake of the issue as well as the need for its presence and help to interact and carry out an effective role in it. He also emphasized the need for U.S. moves in an intensive and speedy manner for the sake of solving the issue.

MAY DISCUSSES MUBARAK'S WASHINGTON VISIT

PM261635 Cairo MAY in Arabic 24 Jan 83 p 3

[Kamal 'Abd ar-Ra'uf article "from Washington": "Washington Has Questions and Cairo Has Certain Observations for United States"]

[Excerpt] Anderson's Mines and Arab Mines

President Mubarak's visit to Washington is taking place at an extremely important juncture with regard to the future of U.S.-Egyptian relations and the Middle East problem. As a senior Egyptian official said in a recent statement to the press, Egypt has become accustomed to someone coming out from time to time to explode a mine of a particular type in order to destroy the bridges of Egyptian-U.S. relations. The time for exploding such a mine is usually chosen to coincide with a senior Egyptian official's visit to the United States. This, of course, is part of the actions and pressures of Egypt's enemies abroad.

Last year American journalist Jack Anderson raised an uproar about U.S. arms deliveries to Egypt. He said that commissions were being paid in this operation. It has been proved that the allegation was unfounded and that the American journalist, under the law that protects him against disclosing his sources of news, exploded this mine just before President Mubarak's visit to the United States.

We do not know what news of this kind Anderson is concealing this year -- news supplied to him by those who want relations between Egypt and the United States to return to the tense state that existed in the fifties and sixties and who are anxious to see Israel once again sitting on the U.S. lap and becoming the only U.S. friend in the Middle East.

But we know definitely that Israel and Syria in particular do not view President Mubarak's U.S. visit with satisfaction. Israel is interested in the current situation in the Middle East remaining as it is, for it does not want to withdraw from Lebanon. In fact, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz suspects that there is collusion between Syria and Israel not to withdraw from Lebanon and to sabotage Reagan's initiative. Syria and Israel do not wish to withdraw from Lebanon. Syria and Israel reject Reagan's initiative: Syria rejects it because it places King Husayn in a better position and would lose Syria the Palestinian card from its hand if the Palestinians agreed to enter into negotiations with Israel; and Israel does not like what Reagan's initiative says about the West Bank and Gaza.

For this reason we can say that neither Syria nor Israel wishes the Egyptian president's U.S. visit success. In fact they could create any crisis to distract attention from it. Suffice to recall that Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was shouting for Security Council help last week for fear of an Israeli attack on the new SAM-5's.

Questions But Not Doubts

Apart from the Middle East problem and its complications, the question of bilateral Egyptian-U.S. relations will have top priority in the talks between Presidents Mubarak and Reagan. Three ministers from the economic group have gone to Washington prior to the president's visit to prepare for the economic talks and to press the need to increase U.S. aid so as to contribute to the country's 5-year development plan.

The talk about U.S. aid to Egypt causes some pain to a number of Americans involved in the aid program and interested in strengthened Egyptian-U.S. friendship ties. These officials ask questions, which sometimes verge on expressions of doubt, about the future of Egyptian-U.S. economic cooperation. Among the questions that are being asked in Cairo and echoed in Washington are:

Why this campaign of attacks on U.S. aid to Egypt in the opposition papers and particularly in a weekly magazine published by a national publishing house?

If the opposition papers' aim is known, and it is to destroy Egyptian-U.S. relations and to restore Egyptian-Soviet relations to what they were in the sixties, how can the attack by a national magazine on U.S. aid, and going so far as to allege that the aim of the aid program is to spy on Egypt, be explained?

Another question being asked by American officials in Cairo is: Why do those who know the truth about this aid not reply to the campaign by leftists and Marxists against economic aid to Egypt simply because it comes from the United States?

Why does Egypt allow those people to say that U.S. aid helps only the swindlers who emerged with the open-door policy, despite the fact that the officials know well that this is absolutely untrue?

Egypt's Questions

But Egypt too has questions on its part that need an answer from Washington:

The U.S. aid program is still shackled with bureaucratic restrictions that sometimes limit its effectiveness. During President Mubarak's visit last year Egypt asked for flexibility in the utilization of aid and for treatment on an equal footing with Israel. The need for such flexibility, which has not yet materialized, will be even greater when Egypt asks the United States to participate in the implementation of some of the Egyptian development plan projects.

Despite all the facilities that Egypt granted to increase the flow of U.S. capital, U.S. investments in Egypt still do not exceed 5 percent of the total of foreign investments in Egypt.

Egypt needs reassurance that the trend in U.S. aid is to increase and not decrease, as is being reiterated in certain quarters that only care for Israel and its interests.

The cost of U.S. arms obtained by Egypt is increasing, which requires increasing military aid to Egypt in the next budget to $1.75 billion so that this increase will cover the increase in costs.

Great Admiration

Yet, despite the questions raised by both sides, I can say that the U.S. Administration is quite satisfied with Egypt's achievements under President Mubarak. Diplomatic reports received in Washington from the Middle East praise the policy by which affairs are being managed in Egypt. It is also said that, 15 months after assuming office, President Mubarak has been able to overcome many obstacles, the most important among which are the questions of security and extremism. He also has taken the bold step of combating corruption despite the position and names of the corrupt. This step in particular has boosted the Egyptian president's popularity inside the country and abroad and proved that he is a man who first and foremost works for his country and does not heed what others say as long as his conscience is satisfied.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ARAB-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

GF261823 Doha QNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Doha, 26 Jan (QNA) -- Egyptian Foreign Affairs Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has expressed his belief that Egyptian-Arab relations will become as before during the current year. He affirmed Egypt's belief in the unity of the Arab nation's fate.

In an interview with the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB published today, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he expects the new year to witness restoration of many relations between Egypt and the Arab world. He stressed that Egypt does not use its sympathy with and support of Palestinian rights as a means of restoring its relations with the Arab states.

He said that Egypt is continuing its pledge to the Palestinian people so that they can excerise their legitimate right to self-determination, including their right to establish their state in a way that the Palestinians agree upon and in a way that provides security and peace for all the peoples of the region. He said that Egypt intends to prepare the atmosphere to start expanded talks with the participation of Jordan and the Palestinians, with Egypt, the United States and Israel, to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In his interview, the Egyptian foreign affairs minister referred to the Lebanese problem and stated three principles on which the Egyptian movement is based in this regard. They are: Israeli withdrawal and the departure of all foreign troops as soon as possible; maintaining Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and the unity of its territories and opposition to any Israeli presence on Lebanese territory; and Egypt's readiness to contribute to achieving stability, security, and tranquillity in Lebanon.

'Ali on U.S. Role

NC232122 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 23 Jan 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has called on the United States to play a more decisive role in the forthcoming stage so that the Arab countries will not doubt the U.S. ability in continuing the peace process in the Middle East and so that this doubting will not lead to the collapse of all current initiatives.

In a statement to the Iraqi newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, 'Ali said that the Arab Fes summit resolutions and the possibility of activating them along with the U.S. President's plan and the need for an urgent Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will be among the topics that President Husni Mubarak will discuss with U.S. President Ronald Reagan during his visit to Washington. The two presidents will also discuss bilateral relations, the U.S. role in stopping the Iraq-Iran war, and Reagan's plan to solve the Middle East crisis.

'ALI RECEIVES BETHLEHEM MAYOR FRAYJ 25 JAN

NC251510 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 25 (MENA) -- Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received today Mayor of Bethlehem Ilyas Frayj, who is currently visiting here.

The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Taha al-Farnawani, director of the Palestine Department at the Foreign Ministry, and Fu'ad Yusuf, expert in Palestinian affairs.

Following the 90-minute meeting with 'Ali, Frayj held a press conference during which he urged the Arab states to restore ties with Egypt and coordinate with it and launch an intensive political campaign in quest of a just and comprehensive peace.

The Palestinian mayor asserted that peace could only be realised through negotiations. He also expressed hope that President Husni Mubarak would convey to the American Administration the danger of the situation in the occupied Arab territories, especially as the American political, material, and military aid helps Israel carry out its policy in the occupied territories.

Frayj expressed confidence in Egypt's policy, the success of which had been proved following Lebanon's tragedy.

The mayor of Bethlehem expressed hope for the Palestinian leadership, represented in the PLO, to coordinate deeply with the Egyptian Government. The Palestinians need such coordination, he said, adding that the present time is the most critical phase through which the Palestinian people are passing.

Frayj said that such statements did not stem out of pessimism, but that the current events in the occupied Arab territories render the political drive a dire necessity.

Frayj voiced hoped that the PLO and the Palestinian National Council, due to convene shortly, would propose a peace initiative based on reciprocal recognition.

The mayor of Bethlehem affirmed that there would be no solution except through political negotiations, adding that Egypt recovered Sinai through negotiations.

We, like the Egyptians, could regain the West Bank and Gaza Strip through political negotiations especially since no military solution is foreseen in the near future.

In his meeting with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Frayj said that he reviewed with the foreign minister developments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and discussed the future of the Palestinian people.

Replying to a query raised by reporters on what the Arabs reiterate regarding military solution, Frayj said that we want no slogans.

In answer to another question, the Bethlehem mayor said that he will conduct talks with the officials in Jordan, on his way back to the West Bank.

WHEAT DEAL LEAKED TO 'EMBARRASS' UNITED STATES

PM261205 Cairo MAY in Arabic 24 Jan 83 p 3

[Kamal 'Abd ar-Ra'uf report from Washington: "Who Leaked News of Low-Priced U.S. Wheat Deal With Egypt?"]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Administration believes that the news of the sale of 1 million tons of American wheat to Egypt at a price lower than the international price was leaked by certain officials in the Department of Agriculture with the aim of embarrassing the United States. The Egyptian-U.S. agreement was concluded in absolute secrecy so that other countries would not ask the United States for a similar agreement. It was observed that the news agency to which the news was leaked was AFP in Washington. The agreement will also affect the European market countries, which are afraid that the United States will reduce the price of its agricultural products and thus affect the prices at which EEC countries sell their agricultural products to the Middle East.

This is the first deal of its kind that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has concluded with such great facilities for Egypt. The department confined itself to saying that the value of the deal is in excess of $150 million.

ABU BASHA INTERVIEW ON EXTREMISM, VIOLENCE

PM261143 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Jan 83 p 3

[Interview with Interior Minister Major General Hasan Abu Basha by Ahmad Bahjat, presumably in Cairo -- date not given; all numbers as published]

[Excerpts] Question: The view generally held in the Third World is that political security takes priority over public security. What is your opinion?

Answer: There is no difference between political security and any other kind of security because it is difficult to separate the security of the homeland from the security of the public. One affects the other. If the security of the country is undermined, the security of the public will be undermined, and vice versa.

Question: I believe that the phenomenon of violence in the world is due to a lack of democracy. In Egypt, social and economic conditions have made it possible for extremism and violence to emerge. Do you believe that the problem of religious extremism could be solved if approached as strictly a case for the police?

Answer: Absolutely not.

Question: How then?

Answer: I believe that there are two aspects to this issue. The first and most important is the ideological aspect -- religious guidance. I think that we have made the right approach within the context of the ideological dialogue which has already started. I still maintain that the religious dialogue which has already started should continue. It is very important that our ulema and our writers should dwell on it. In my opinion, this is one of the most important phenomena in present-day Egypt, bearing in mind that numerous foreign circles have begun to exploit this phenomenon [violence] and I do not believe that their aim is to serve the interests of Islam or Egypt.

Question: The trials and torture of the Muslim Brotherhood before and after the revolution gave rise to something new in our society. Coercion produced religious groups which came out of the shadow of the Muslim Brotherhood's calm ideologies maintaining that these ideologies were too passive and that what was needed was more violence, and they did become active. Do you not fear that this phenomenon might be repeated and that out of the shadow of the groups now under trial might emerge even more extremists groups?

Answer: The Muslim Brotherhood resorted to violence before the revolution -- between 1946 and 1949 -- as a result of the secret service. There was an attempt on 'Abd an-Nasir's life in 1954. What is really worth noting is that the group involved in the Military-Technical College incident had no links with the Muslim Brotherhood and it did not include anyone detained previously. With the exception of Shukri Ahmad Mustara, the Renunciation and Repudiation [takfir] group had no links with the Muslim Brotherhood. With the exception of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd ar-Rahman, none of the Al-Jihad group had previously been detained as member of the Muslim Brotherhood. The new groups differ ideologically from the Muslim Brotherhood.

Question: How do we ensure that the phenomenon does not reappear after a few years?

Answer: By letting the religious dialogue take its course. Many of the young people who had joined that trend are beginning to reconsider their position in the light of the many corrections to the religious ideologies upheld by the religious groups.

Question: How many people are now in detention without there being a case against them?

Answer: Fifty-nine.

Question: When will they be released?

Answer: Their attitudes are being assessed and discussions are being held with them. We will release them when we find their position reassuring.

Question: The question of torture in prison has been raised during the current trials of the Al-Jihad group members. Is it true that defendants are tortured in prison?

Answer: It is very regrettable that the way this issue was raised was unfair to the security organs. I want to clearly explain the following facts:

1. The investigations of the public prosecution show that of the 282 defendants under the first bill of indictment, 159 have been examined with the knowledge of public prosecution investigators and it has been established that they suffered no injuries whatsoever. Furthermore, they did not claim to have been tortured. Thirty-nine claimed that they were tortured but a medical examination carried out with the knowledge of the investigators revealed no injuries whatsoever. It has also been established that 43 had injuries sustained as a result of the exchange of fire and the assault on them by the public when they were captured. Thirty-nine had bruises inflicted in the course of their arrest.

2. It is very regrettable that some have claimed that they were sexually assaulted. I cannot bring myself to utter the words to describe this claim but I want to state categorically that it is unfounded. If there was any evidence of such a serious offense by any member of the Security Department, I would be the first to denounce him and expel him from the Security Department.

3. The security organs were the target of the ugliest attack in their history. The operation was marked by treachery and 100 security officers and men were killed and 150 others were wounded by bullets and bombs. All this happened during the hour of prayer on the first day of the feast of Al-Adha when members of the police were seeing to it that the public could pray in peace. The attacks on the security men with grenades and machineguns continued while the members of this organization were being pursued. At the height of these battles -- and they were like military battles as far as the number of casualties was concerned -- it is possible that when arrests were made some assaults occured in the heat of the moment.

4. It has been proven that the claims made by the defendants during the trials were unfounded.

5. Some unions and establishments applied for permission to visit the defendants. All their requests were granted. Their impressions were good and we received letters of thanks from them commending the treatment of the detainees. I mention the doctors' union, the commercial union, and others.

Question: Could we say that we have stamped out the phenomenon of violence?

Answer: The objective security approach coupled with religous dialogue and guidance might certainly confirm that this phenomenon is receding as time goes by.

Question: If it is receding, why is the emergency law still in force?

Answer: [It is in force] to deal with any attempt to perpetrate acts of violence, especially with the presence of certain elements willing to commit acts of violence and with certain foreign elements attempting to import the method of violence into the country by stealth.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 977

JN261721 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jan (INA) -- The Iraqi forces have killed several Iranians and destroyed much of the enemy's weapons, military hardware, and infantry positions on the battlefield yesterday evening and today.

A military communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening stated that the Iraqi forces struck enemy concentrations in the Maysan sector, killing three and destroying three infantry positions, whose occupants were killed. They also hit one hardware stockpile and one observation post, setting them on fire.

The communique stated that two Iranians were killed and two vehicles, one carrying a 106-mm gun, were destroyed and their occupants killed in the area east of Basra. Three hardware stockpiles were destroyed in the same sector. Two were killed and one infantry position destroyed in the central sector.

The communique added that the Iranian enemy today shelled Mandali, Khanaqin, and Zurbatiyah, causing some damage to one civilian establishment in Khanaqin. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 977 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With unique courage and strong determination, our valiant armed forces pursue their daring activities against the enemy's forces and troop movements. The results of yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units struck enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite their positions in the Maysan sector with all kinds of weapons, killing three and destroying three infantry positions, whose occupants were killed. They hit one hardware stockpile and one observation post, setting them on fire.

2. Several enemy elements, supported by two vehicles, one carrying a 106-mm gun, tried to approach one of our forward units in the area east of Basra. Our forces clashed with them using various kinds of weapons, killing two and forcing the others to flee. Our forces also destroyed the two vehicles and the 106-mm gun and killed the occupants of the two vehicles. Three hardware stockpiles were destroyed in the same sector.

3. Three were killed and one infantry position destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The rancorous enemy today shelled Mandali, Khanaqin, and Zurbatiyah, causing damage to one civilian establishment in Khanaqin.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 January 1983

FES, UN RESOLUTIONS 'TACIT RECOGNITION' OF ISRAEL

JN270753 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Those who follow the Syrian media campaign against Yasir 'Arafat and the PLO leadership clearly see the determination of the Syrian regime and its allies to confuse Palestinian public opinion at this particular stage. There is obvious determination by these media to split the PLO and cast doubts on its leadership so as to serve certain political aims which have no relation with Palestinian or Arab interests. We are all aware that 'Arafat and the PLO leadership are painstakingly trying to bring about a unified Palestinian view and position to pave the way for establishing a unified Palestinian stand on the current political efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem and to move on the political level to save whatever they can at a time when the Palestinian cause and rights are being threatened with extinction due to Arab impotence.

The Syrian media and those party to the Tripoli statement, which calls for historic Arab condemnation of those who drafted it, are currently working to harm Yasir 'Arafat under the pretext that he had met with a delegation of the Israeli peace council. They say that this is reneging the path of the Palestinian struggle and an acceptance of the principle of dealing with Israel. This campaign intentionally ignores the fact that, in the past, the PLO leaders repeatedly issued statements on similar meetings with Israelis from the Peace Now movement in Western and Eastern European states, before the Lebanese war and during the Beirut siege, with the aim of opening a dialogue with those moderate Israeli groups recognizing the Palestinian reality and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and hence expanding the scope of Palestinian action in the world community.

Such a rabid media campaign was not launched against the PLO and 'Arafat when the PLO announced that similar meetings and dialogues were taking place between PLO members and members of the Israeli Peace Now movement. The Syrian media and Syria's allies did not launch such a rabid campaign when 'Arafat met with Yuri Avneri, member of the Israeli Peace Now movement, during the Beirut siege. Why didn't these media launch such campaigns in the past? The facts are that the PLO is shaking the Israeli extremist front and establishing a dialogue with moderate groups that can accept the Palestinian reality, condemn Israeli extremism, and demand peace based on recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to determine their destiny on their soil.

The PLO is working for peace within the framework of the Fes summit conference and international resolutions. Why is the PLO being attacked by some Arab states that accepted the Fes resolutions, which tacitly imply the recognition of Israel and approve of the efforts to reach a peaceful settlement with it? Why did Syria, which is launching this campaign, accept Resolution 338, which stipulates the principle of a peaceful settlement and the tacit recognition of Israel? Why didn't Syria object to the PNC's repeated resolutions affirming the search for a just political settlement based on the right of the Palestinian people to decide their fate under the PLO?

It is obvious that the campaign by Syria and its allies against Yasir 'Arafat at this particular time is an attempt to split Palestinian ranks and prevent the Palestinians from realizing a unified position at a time when they are in dire need of a united stand and a unified Arab position, rather than cheap plots stemming from narrow, regional considerations ignoring the Palestinian people's interests, the Palestinian cause, and the pan-Arab interests.

WEEKLY: REAGAN PEACE ASSURANCES REQUIRE ACTION

JN270835 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 27 Jan 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Reagan's Assurances and Israeli Intransigence"]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan reaffirmed yesterday that he will not abandon his initiative to achieve peace in the Middle East and that his country will continue its efforts to that end. This reaffirmation is important because it reflects what can be considered a sincere desire by the U.S. President to implement his plan, which has won worldwide support.

But the failure of the Habib mission in Lebanon and the stumbling of the negotiations, which were supposed to revolve around Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, have raised many questions and doubts about the U.S. Administration's ability to fulfill Reagan's desire. The U.S. position in the negotiations is still incapable of solving the Lebanese problem to ensure fulfillment of U.S. commitments on ending the occupation and withdrawing the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Therefore, President Reagan's assurances about his commitment to implement his initiative requires tangible proof which will restore confidence in his administration's ability to smash Zionist conceit and take courageous steps to make Israel withdraw its forces from Lebanon, stop the settlement operations in the West Bank, and respond to the peace efforts.

The Arabs have done their part and showed sincere cooperation with the peace initiatives. For their part, the Palestinians have also entered the peace camp, as Yasir 'Arafat said. Only Israel is defying the wish of the international community, and of the United States in particular.

The ball is now in the U.S. court. The United States assumes the full responsibility of dealing with Israel in a manner that will put an end to the arrogance, megalomania, and lust for killing and expansion which characterize the Zionist entity's policy, behavior, and opposition to efforts for a just and comprehensive settlement.

Since President Reagan is determined to continue with his initiative, then he must do what he deems suitable to evolve a firm stand which will have its impact on Israeli intransigence. Anything else would be mere talk to play on emotions. Such talk no longer has any value in the Arab world.

Unless the United States provides tangible, practical proof of its ability to achieve peace, it will remain an accomplice to Zionist aggression and will expose peace and security in the region to danger. Unless Washington takes practical steps to promote the peace efforts, the region would be exposed to a new catastrophe.

ISRAELIS INSTALLING EARLY WARNING STATION

NC270733 Idhin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Arrivals from the south report that Israel has begun the installation of an early warning station in (Tallat Ra's al-Bayyadah), overlooking the An-Naqurah border area.

ISRAELIS REINFORCING AL-BIQA' POSITIONS

NC270752 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Cautious calm prevailed in the mountain area last night and this morning. This calm was disrupted by sniper fire in some townships in 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf. The roads in the area remain paralyzed.

In Baysur township, the Israeli occupation forces arrested eight citizens, including three Druze chieftains.

In the south, the Israeli enemy forces continue the arrest of citizens, particularly in Sidon. The Israeli forces mounted a widescale campaign of arrests yesterday and the day before following the machinegun attack at the headquarters of the military governor.

The Israeli forces combed the Az-Zahrani area yesterday afternoon and blew up a house in the area. The enemy's forces intensified their patrols and roadblocks between Sidon and Tyre.

In the western Al-Biqa', the Israeli forces raided the township of Ar-Rashid and arrested about 20 citizens, including Ahmad Sharqiyah, Ahmad 'Ayyash, and Mukhtar ar-Rashid. The enemy forces reinforced their forward positions in Al-Biqa', bringing in new tanks, armored cars, and missiles.

ISRAEL'S MODA'I MEETS JUNBLATT REPRESENTATIVES

NC270708 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] On the level of tackling the security situation in the mountain area, Israeli Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i yesterday held a meeting with Walid Junblatt's representatives in (Budur al-'Abadiyah) near 'Alayh. The representatives are 'Atif Sallum, the personal representative of Junblatt, and 'Isam as-Sayigh, the military official of the Socialist Progressive Party in the 'Alayh District. Former Deputy Fadlallah Talhuq joined the meeting.

It is known that Sallum and As-Sayigh visited the Syrian capital last week and reviewed the situation in the mountain area with senior Syrian officials.

AL-JUMAYYIL BRIEFS CABINET ON WITHDRAWAL TALKS

NC261926 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Excerpt] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening briefed the Cabinet on the stages covered by the Lebanese-Israel-U.S. negotiations to achieve withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. He pointed out that U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib may carry new positions on his expected return to the area.

The official announcement by the Cabinet's acting secretary general, Shafiq Munayminah, following the end of the meeting at 1930, says that President al-Jumayyil spoke about the situation in Tripoli.

He pointed out that the arrangements that have been taken following prime minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's visit to Tripoli have had a satisfying effect on the citizens. His excellency expressed his hope that the stable security situation in the city will continue. He considered that what has been achieved is positive and must be emphasized.

His excellency then dwelt on the success achieved by Minister of Economy and Tourism Ibrahim Halawah in Morocco, where the Jerusalem Committee expressed full support for the Lebanese position.

After that, Prime Minister al-Wazzan informed the Cabinet that he will participate in the international business symposium to be held in Switzerland in the presence of many prime ministers, bank presidents, and a large number of economic, financial, and international personalities. He stressed that his participation in this symposium is on instruction from his excellency the president and his support for any development efforts.

AL-JUMAYYIL MEETS PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

NC261320 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The Republican Palace today witnessed a series of political meetings to appraise the Lebanese position in light of active diplomatic moves on the Arab and international levels.

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met with former Prime Minister Amin al-Hafiz, former Prime Minister Rashid as-Sulh, Deputy Louis Abu Sharaf, and members of the parliamentary delegations that visited the Arab capitals. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, and Ghassan Tuwayni.

Tuwayni and Ambassador Nadim Dimashqiyah returned last night from a brief visit to Cairo, where they met with President Husni Mubarak on the eve of his departure to Washington conveying a message from President al-Jumayyil regarding the negotiations.

Before going to the palace today, Minister Salim met at the Foreign Ministry with head of the U.S. side to the negotiations Ambassador Morris Draper. They reviewed subjects relating to the negotiations session tomorrow, Thursday, in Qiryat Shemona.

A meeting of the political operations room will be held in the palace tonight to provide directives to the Lebanese side in light of the available information and the results of the intensive contacts Lebanon is conducting.

The Lebanese circles, which are following up the developments, believe that February will be a decisive month for the Lebanese question. Lebanon is intensifying its diplomatic contacts on the Arab and international levels and is sending its envoys wherever it is necessary.

Envoys Tuwayni and Dimashqiyah briefed President Mubarak yesterday on the difficulties and obstacles Israel is raising in the negotiations and conveyed to him a clear picture of events in Lebanon as a result of the present occupations of its territory.

Meanwhile, it was learned that contacts have been made with Saudi Arabia to give it a clear picture of the Lebanese situation and to request it to intensify its contacts in support of the Lebanese stance.

It was reported today that King Fahd of Saudi Arabia stated at the Cabinet session that Saudi Arabia is eager to support Lebanon's efforts to safeguard its independence and sovereignty and to bring about the withdrawal of foreign forces from its territory.

The Saudi newspaper AL-BILAD has praised Lebanon's stance at the negotiations, saying that this stand underlined Lebanon's adherence to its original Arab character.

AL-WAZZAN ON CONTACTS WITH HUSNI MUBARAK

NC261740 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] President al-Jumayyil today received Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and the coordinator general of the negotiations, Ghassan Tuwayni. Earlier Tuwayni met with Foreign Minister Salim and briefed him on the results of the talks he and Dimashqiyah held with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on accelerating the withdrawal of the foreign forces. It has been learned that the talks in Cairo were positive and that President Mubarak expressed full readiness to support the Lebanese stance and the efforts being made by the Lebanese Government to achieve its goal of liberating Lebanon.

Later, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan joined the meeting to assess the contacts and to prepare a program for the intensive diplomatic moves to support the Lebanese action.

President al-Jumayyil then received in the presence of Prime Minister al-Wazzan [former] Prime Ministers Amin al-Hafiz and Rashid as-Sulh, Deputy Louis Abu Sharaf, as well as the members of the Lebanese parliamentary delegations which toured the Arab capitals. The heads of the three delegations pointed out that they briefed Al-Jumayyil and Al-Wazzan on the Arab countries' position on Lebanon and the efforts the Arab countries are making to achieve Lebanon's goals.

On leaving the Republican Palace, Prime Minister al-Wazzan pointed out that the parliamentary delegation briefed the government on the visits they made to the Arab countries, saying that the answers they brought back are very satisfactory.

Asked about the results of the visit to Cairo by Ambassadors Tuwayni and Dimashqiyah, Al-Wazzan said that the government desired to benefit from President Mubarak's visit to Washington and to convey to him a request to support Lebanon and the demands Lebanon is seeking with all quarters. He added: We will utilize any effective party and opportunity in the interest of Lebanon. We feel that we have no time to waste. We must make use of every minute and opportunity with any Arab, friendly, or international party.

Asked if the Egyptian president had given a response, Al-Wazzan said: Of course, the Egyptian stand on Lebanon was demonstrated in the past, since the Israeli invasion and the siege of Beirut.

SALIM REVIEWS NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRAPER

NC261009 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] At 0930 today Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim reviewed with Ambassador Morris Draper, the head of the U.S. side to the negotiations with Israel, the results of the U.S. efforts to activate the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations. The ambasador declined to make any statement.

AL-JUMAYYIL, SHAM'UN ON AL-QADHDHAFI STATEMENTS

NC261404 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Following the Lebanese Front's weekly meeting this morning, Pierre al-Jumayyil said: We have been calling on the Lebanese people for a long time to say what Lebanon they want.

I believe that some of us, rather the overwhelming majority of us, have declared and continue to declare that they want Lebanon to be a country of coexistence and freedom in every sense of the word, particularly the freedom of religion. They want Lebanon also to continue to be the meeting place of civilizations and religions so that the Lebanese may feel that he is really in his homeland.

We must state here that in his recent statement, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed the way of thinking of every Libyan Arab. Therefore, it behooves us to declare frankly what Lebanon we want. The Muslim and Christian Lebanese must state their opinion on this topic. We declared in the name of the Phalangists and the Christians declared 20 years ago what Lebanon we want. We emphasized that the homeland we aspire to is 10,452 square kilometers -- a Lebanon which is the meeting place of the civilizations and all public freedoms which the Lebanese Muslim and Christian understand but which the non-Lebanese Muslim does not understand.

In conclusion, Pierre al-Jumayyil said: I find it necessary to reiterate that the Lebanese issue is a special issue which is only understood by the Lebanese, be he Muslim or Christian. It is time that we say what Lebanon we want. This is the basic demand and it is what is frankly required. Otherwise, let each seek his own path.

[Former] President Camille Sham'un did not want to add anything to what the Phalangist leader said regarding Al-Qadhdhafi's statement. He stressed that the Lebanese Front categorically rejects this statement, particularly the part on the Islamization of Lebanon -- all of Lebanon -- as a condition for its stability. He said: The Lebanese Muslims, I believe, condemn Al-Qadhdhafi's attitude. We hope they will express their position very frankly.

FRANJIYAH COMMENTS ON FOREIGN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

NC260912 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0720 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] In his weekly press conference which he held at his palace in Zgharta yesterday morning, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah dealt with the various aspects of the current situation in the Lebanese arena. He also dealt with the Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli negotiations.

His excellency began the conference, saying: Zgharta and its area commemorated this week the 21 January 1976 anniversary [the date Franjiyah broke away from the Lebanese Front]. Zgharta held a requiem for the souls of our pious martyrs. It was through their martyrdom and unparalleled heroic deeds that their sacred land and Lebanon have survived. Lebanon will survive forever, God willing.

Were it not for the victory of these heroes in this battle, and we say so modestly, the American-Zionist conspiracy would have swept all the Lebanese territory without facing any resistance. This is not the first time that Lebanon has survived because of what Zgharta az-Zawiyah did. It will not be the last time either if a new plot is schemed against Lebanon's territorial integrity and the unity of its people.

To those heroes, I express my appreciation and admiration for their steadfast heroic action which has preserved their dignity, homeland, and their land.

Franjiyah added: There is an information uproar because sister Syria has obtained SAM-5's. The uproar was first caused by Israel. Naturally, the United States came next.

We wonder by what logic can an enemy object to the acquisition of a defensive weapon by the aggressed upon. This is a strange logic. The United States has, regrettably, left us no room to wonder concerning everything which is of interest to Israel.

Thanks to the United States, Israel possesses the most modern U.S. weapons. Israel's criminal nature did not deter it from testing these weapons against the Lebanese people, who, regretably, do not have the strength or weapons to defend themselves.

We deduce that these propaganda campaigns against the defensive weapon are nothing but an information coverup for a military action, which Israel is planning with the approval of the United States against sisterly Syria. We implore God Almighty to drag Israel to a new battle, hoping it will mark the end of the Zionist presence on the sacred Arab land.

It is the view of Israel and the United States that fraternal Syria has no right to possess a defensive weapon. However, Israel is illogically seeking to impose the installation of early warning stations of Lebanese territory. Israel insists on their installation. This is sound logic in the view of Israel and the United States.

Because of the shortcomings of Arab information in the world, the world is now influenced by Israeli information and it only thinks of what Israel tells it in the information field. We have reached the extent of accusing the Western peoples that they think with their ears and forget what sound logic emanating from sound thinking dictates.

Franjiyah added: We thank God that the dear capital Tripoli has returned to the situation which every loyal Lebanese and non-Lebanese citizen wishes for it. A meeting was recently held by industrialists in the dear capital. The meeting issued a statement on defending the Lebanese industry in the north and elsewhere in Lebanon.

Franjiyah then said: To enable the officials to implement the contents of the statement, I permit myself to propose one action which might restore to the Lebanese industry the life and strength we wish for it. I propose that fuels used in industry be exempted from the taxes imposed on them -- fuel oil, mazot, and electricity. In order that the Treasury may not lose the income from these taxes, we request the state, if it adopts this proposal, to add the loss to the price of gasoline. This way, the industry will continue and the worker will continue to work at his place of domicile and will not have to immigrate to earn his and his family's livelihood. If the demands of the industrialists are met by the state, then this would be a service and encouragement to the worker and the businessman, whose interests are common.

The following dialogue then took place between [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and reporters:

[Question] As you have previously expected, Your Excellency the President, the hopes pinned on the U.S. move regarding the Israeli position at the negotiations have collapsed. The ninth round of these negotiations are the best evidence of this. What are your comments?

[Answer] When there are negotiations, everyone involved in these negotiations usually wishes their success. The current negotiations between Lebanon and Israel aim at the imposition of the invader's will on the aggressed upon. I ask: If we set aside his military strength, what rights do we owe the Israeli enemy and what rights does he have on our land?

I disavowed these negotiations since the first meeting and I wished the [Lebanese] negotiator to confine them to one or two sessions at most. Now that they are continuing and we continue to hear twice weekly about a meeting and about progress or stumbling in these negotiations, then what I wish is that a limit and deadline be set when the Lebanese negotiator will say: Your conditions, O enemy, are totally rejected. My only condition is your total and unconditional withdrawal from the land which you have desecrated.

This is all I wish and I have great hope that the officials will heed it and give the invading enemy the option of unconditional withdrawal or staying where he is. The future is, God willing, for the peaceful person and not the aggressor.

[Question] Israel has difficult conditions. Lebanon does not approve them, to safeguard its dignity and the Arab stand. What is the exit, in your opinion?

[Answer] There is no exit from this situation, whether it is satisfactory or not to our Arab brothers, other than stopping the negotiations and keeping the situation as it is.

[Question] It is said that the absence of Arab solidarity delays a solution or even obstructs a solution. How then can Lebanon be saved?

[Answer] You speak about Arab absence, but permit me to say Arab solidarity. If there was a fraction of the desired solidarity, then there would have been no Israel in the first place and there would have been no aggression against Arab territory other than that which it has, regrettably, occupied in the second place.

[Question] There have been reports about the possibility of forming a national union government [hukumat ittihad watani] to bolster the national decision and back up the government's stand on the negotiations. What are your comments?

[Answer] There is no difference between a solidarity government and the solidarity of the people with the government. By virtue of the officials' wisdom, we can claim today, praise be to God, that the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people are in solidarity with the present officials. We hope that this solidarity will continue, God willing, until the day of relaxation.

[Question] Despite the people's solidarity with the government, how should the government act if Israel insists on normalization and tries to impose its demands on Lebanon?

[Answer] Israel can insist on anything it wants. Even if it stays in Lebanon, Israel cannot impose any of its conditions on the Lebanese Government or people. Israel is our enemy and that of all the Arabs and even of all the world because of its haughtiness and terrorism -- the world which thinks with its head. It can make whatever demands. However, it cannot obtain anything against the will of the Lebanese.

[Question] How then should the government act?

[Answer] The government is in a position now which does not enable it to confront the Israeli enemy with the weapon which this enemy has used. However, it can refuse to submit to this weapon even if Israel were to stay until the national service law is implemented, soon, God willing, and until we have an army, very soon, God willing.

Every member of this army would be equal to 100 enemy soldiers in terms of fighting for two reasons: The first reason is that the one defending his fate is not the same as the aggressor; the second reason is that, if we go back to history, we would find out that every Lebanese equals 100 Jews. History has acknowledged our bravery and has known Israel's cowardice.

[Question] What can the government resort to until the implementation of the national service law?

[Answer] It can wait, take a deep breath, have cool nerves, and be patient. God supports those who are patient.

[Question] Do you believe, Your Excellency the President, that the talk about the existence of a U.S.-Israeli difference after Philip Habib's tour is a genuine difference or a new maneuver to depicit the U.S. position as one balanced between the Arabs and Israel?

[Answer] This is a picture that cannot be judged before changing the previous picture, which gave us an idea about the submission of the U.S. authority to the Israeli desire. Until the opposite is proved, God Almighty is with those who are patient.

[Question] The south, Your Excellency the President, is threatened with being detached from Lebanon under various formulas which Israel is proposing. Do you believe this?

[Answer] Israel can propose whatever it wants. The south is the heart of Lebanon and it will remain the heart of Lebanon. There is an end to every tyrant.

[Question] The government, Your Excellency the President, has resorted to briefing the Arab brothers on the negotiations. It assigned some representatives and deputies to put the Arabs in the picture. In your opinion, is this a sound course, or are there other measures?

[Answer] There is no objection to this method because our Arab brothers, like all the Lebanese, read in the papers about what is happening in Lebanon. If the details and facts are not coveyed by one official to another official the non-Lebanese official would remain ignorant and will disregard his national duties, when the need arises, toward a question which the Arabs are responsible for more than Lebanon.

[Question] Your Excellency the President, what is your comment on President al-Qadhdhafi's recent call to the Christians in Lebanon to declare their Islam [as heard] in order to resolve the Lebanese issue?

[Answer] With a spirit of tolerance and love, my only comment on this proposal is that its author moves backwards while the world is moving forward.

SHI'ITE COUNCIL ISSUES STATEMENT ON WITHDRAWALS

NC270748 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] A statement was issued yesterday on the meeting of the higher Shi'ite Islamic council under the chairmanship of Shaykh Muhammad Shams ad-Din.

The statement affirmed the belief in one Lebanon as an independent homeland for all its citizens and as a democratic parliamentary republic respecting freedoms. The statement also affirmed that Lebanon should be excluded from Arab or international axes' policy.

The statement gave priority to the achievement of the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces and called for insisting on comprehensive withdrawals from Lebanon and for cooperation toward putting an end to the mountain events, which threaten the homeland.

LEBANESE FORCES LEADER BACKS PEACE WITH ISRAEL

NC241838 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 17-23 Jan 83 pp 34-43

[By Claude Khoury]

[Excerpt] Fadi Afram, commander of the Lebanese Forces militia, called last week for a peace treaty and normal relations with Israel to neutralize Syria's ability to apply pressure on Lebanon.

In a private interview with MONDAY MORNING, Afram said: "We are for normal relations (with Israel), because Lebanon has until now... been under the psychological and political domination of Syria.... If we can have normal relations with all our neighbors, I think Lebanon can be free to make its own political decisions and there will be some kind of equilibrium: Syria will not be able to pose such threats as closing the borders or stopping our transit trade anymore."

Calling the Lebanese-Israeli armistice agreement of 1949 "obsolete," he added: "I am in favor of a peace treaty for the reasons I gave before... equilibrium between Lebanon and Syria."

Asked how he thought this would affect Lebanon's vital relations with the Arab world, Afram called on the Arabs "to understand us, to put themselves in our position and help us come out of this nightmare."

"We believe," he said, "the conflict is no longer between Israel and the Arabs; it is now more between the free world and the communist bloc. The partition of the Arab world is on those lines, although it is still covered. That is why Lebanon, which was the spearhead of the free world in this part of the world, should have the support of all the Arab countries."

The snail pace of the Lebanese-Israeli talks was partly due to Lebanon's desire "to reach an agreement with Israel with the least possible negative consequences from the Arab world," he said. "We are maneuvering not to get the Arabs on our backs."

Unless the talks were speeded up, he said, there would be no total withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon this year -- although a partial withdrawal could take place within two to three months.

Failure to agree on a quick withdrawal of foreign forces would increase "the dangers that are starting to reappear in Lebanon," including the danger of partition, Afram warned. Only "quick withdrawals and a quick physical reunification of the country... can eliminate the danger of partition," which was being increased by the troubles in Tripoli and the Ash-Shuf district of the Lebanese mountains.

Tripoli 1983 was similar to Zahlah 1981, he said. "The people of Tripoli... are fighting to keep Tripoli Lebanese". That problem could be solved "by struggle against the Syrian occupation forces and the PLO and the extension of the Lebanese Army to that troubled area."

In the Ash-Shuf, however, the situation differed, he said. There was no "concrete proof" that Israel was instigating the violence between the predominantly Maronite Lebanese forces and the predominantly Druze Progressive Socialist Party in that area, although "one thing is sure -- that (the Israelis') position was a neutral one and they were, shall we say, profiting from what was happening on the ground to get some kind of political leverage."

But the violence, Afram charged, was started by the president of the Progressive Socialist Party, Walid Junblatt, in a bid to "regain the political stature he had when he had his alliance with the PLO and the Syrians." Junblatt had deliberately given the fighting a confessional [as published] Druze-Maronite character to rally the Druze around him, impose himself as the leader of the Druze community and thus demand "more power and more official positions in the administration of the country."

To defuse the situation in the Ash-Shuf and de-confessionalize the struggle, Afram said, the Lebanese Forces were preparing a "political offensive" which would be launched "very soon."

The offensive would take the form of "contacts, even with Mr Junblatt," Afram said, adding: "We don't have any complexes about talking to Mr Junblatt and trying to calm this situation down."

Junblatt, on the other hand, would not reject such contacts because "he has political objectives and he can only reach those objectives by contacts with us, by us giving him what he wants -- not only us as Lebanese Forces; there is also the administration, there is the government."

The hope is that the contacts will yield "some kind of political agreement that will calm the situation down until the Lebanese Army is able to take control" of the Ash-Shuf district, Afram said.

Israeli withdrawal was "the prerequisite for the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the Ash-Shuf," he said, but if the Israelis withdrew before the the army had the ability to take control, it may lead to a more dangerous situation," and it is Afram's opinion that the Lebanese Army does not have the power to "fill all the vacuum" that would be created by an Israeli withdrawal now.

The violence in the Ash-Shuf, he added, was also partly the work of "the Communist cells and the PLO cells that still exist in West Beirut and the mountains." Those cells were "trying to destabilize that area of the mountains to show that the peace process started by the U.S. in Lebanon cannot work."

He said he also had "intelligence that the terrorists and Communists are planning to try to destabilize West Beirut and the suburbs, as they destabilized the mountain." There was "a definite plan to destabilize the areas where the (American-French-Italian) multinational forces are present...which would make the governments of those forces start thinking if they should keep their forces in Lebanon."

The plan, Afram said, was to destabilize West Beirut and its suburbs "from within," and to counter it, "we are reducing as much as possible the risks of friction that might cause incidents; we have forbidden any element of the Lebanese forces to go to West Beirut or to the suburbs."

But the Lebanese Forces had no plans to lay down their arms at this time, he said. They would continue to be a "military body" as long as Syrian and Palestinian forces remained in Lebanon and as long as "the Lebanese Army and the legal Lebanese security structures are not able to fill the whole area physically."

Right now, he said, there was "close coordination" between the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese Forces, "even on certain fronts: the Lebanese Army is in charge of part of the front and we are in charge of another part -- in the mountains, for example."

When the army "is able to refill the vacuum that was created in 1975-76," the Lebanese Forces "will not exist anymore...There will be no more need to remain as a military body."

At that time, some of the Lebanese Forces' reservists would return to civilian life and the rest would probably become part of Lebanon's legal forces, Afram said.

"The decision will be the president's decision. How he will want to use this potential in the legal infrastructure of the country I don't know.... Many formulas have been discussed, but we haven't reached anything specific yet." One of the formulas discussed was the formation of a Lebanese National Guard which would absorb some of the Lebanese Forces and be given the job of guarding the country's borders.

The Lebanese Forces and President Amin al-Jumayyil "see eye to eye" on the question of disarmament, Afram said: "the disarmament of the Lebanese Forces is dependent on the withdrawal of the foreign occupation forces, and there is an agreement on that. As long as there is a need for our presence, we will exist as a military body."

Rumors about strained relations between the president and the Lebanese Forces were "completely false," he said, adding: "President al-Jumayyil was himself part of the resistance and his objectives are the objectives of the resistance.... Of course, now that he is president, he cannot act as a leader of the resistance -- He has to be a leader for the whole population... But he has our full confidence, and we fully support the way he is acting."

And the fact that the Lebanese Forces remained armed after most Moslem militias had been disarmed did not justify the reported fears of the Moslem community, Afram said. Nor were those fears justified by his recent statements that the Lebanese war had not ended with the usual no-winners-and-no-losers stalemate but with "victor and vanquished."

That remark, which many Moslem leaders took to be directed against the Moslem community, had no confessional implications, Afram said. "When we say there is an attitude of victor and vanquished, it is with respect to the fact that the Lebanese sword has won against all the imported swords.... All those who fought to preserve Lebanon have won, and we believe that all Moslems, even if they were under the domination of the PLO and the Syrians and could not talk, should consider themselves victors also."

Afram called on Lebanon's Moslems to remember Bashir al-Jumayyil, the Lebanese Forces commander whom they helped elect as president of Lebanon shortly before his assassination last year. He quelled Moslem fears "when he said he was going to unify the whole country, that he was the president of the whole country. We are the disciples of Bashir and we are following his objectives, so there shouldn't be any fear in the Moslem community."

The Lebanese Forces, Afram said, believed they had "close relations" with former premier Sa'ib Salam, a leading Sunnite Moslem figure, because "We share the objective of fighting communism." And with Nabih Birri, leader of the predominantly Shi'ite Moslem Amal movement, "We believe we should have close relations, because his policy is Lebanese and he is for a strong Lebanese Government and a sovereign state."

But the Lebanese Forces were "fighting against" the Sunnite Independent Nassirite Movement (Al-Murabitun) which is led by Ibrahim Qulaylat, because "they receive their orders from abroad."

In contrast, however, the Lebanese Forces were coordinating "on the ground" with the Israeli-backed militas of Sa'd Haddad in south Lebanon because "he is a good Lebanese.... We believe that his only will is to come back to the Lebanese entity."

10TH ROUND OF TALKS BEGIN IN QIRYAT SHEMONA

NC270850 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation from Qiryat Shemona, in Arabic, French, and English -- processed from English]

[Text] First of all, good morning. It seems quite cold in Qiryat Shemona this morning, but the weather is okay. What is Lebanon coming with on this 10th round of talks to be held here in Qiryat Shemona? Well, it seems that observers are speculating that the Lebanese side will put forward new ideas emanating from Lebanon's insistence on the withdrawal of all foreign troops, which is an unyielding request by the Lebanese side.

The tripartite delegations will split to start on fresh negotiations in the framework of committees.

In any case, it may be early to start dissecting but we don't have to forget the impact of the stalemate in the negotiations on the Washington line and on meetings bound to take place today and tomorrow in the White House in the presence of the U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib.

Anyway, the Lebanese delegation arrived at 0945 and is now inside the meeting hall. Nothing spectacular is expected from today's meeting but what small [as heard] is the new ideas Lebanon is expected to outline before the Israelis. The Lebanese delegation, following new instructions received from the Presidential Palace yesterday, will also furnish a working paper at the head of which the Lebanon's must, [as heard] which is the general withdrawal of Israelis and all other foreign forces from the Lebanese territory.

Subcommittees Meet

NC270920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0855 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation from Qiryat Shemona, in Arabic, French, and English; processed from English]

[Text] At exactly 1030 this morning, the subcommittees, as expected before, began their side meetings to discuss the following points: security arrangements, withdrawal of all foreign troops, bilateral relations, and guarantees. To mention here that the three delegations had started on a short plenary session and they later agreed to split to allow the subcommittees to meet and discuss the (?respective) items on the compromise agenda. [sentence as heard] Furthermore, it was noted today for the first time the presence of the American General (Cooley) as a member of the U.S. delegation to the talks in Qiryat Shemona.

Nothing seeped around his role or mission in the talks today. At the present moment all that we can say that the subcommittees are meeting and whenever anything comes up Radio Lebanon will be with you just to give the latest.

Fattal Attends Talks

NC271022 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0920 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: We move again to Qiryat Shemona where the Voice of Lebanon team will report on what is new in the negotiations:

This is the Voice of Lebanon reporting from Qiryat Shemona. The three subcommittees -- security arrangements, possible guarantee, and mutual relations -- are meeting now following the public inaugural session.

We have learned from informed sources in the Lebanese delegation that Dr Antoine Fattal's coming to Qiryat Shemona today was to obviate interpretations, explanations, and confusion. These sources said the reason for Dr Fattal's hesitation to come here is that today's sessions will be held by the subcommittees.

The subcommittee which Dr Fattal chairs is, as is known, the subcommittee on ending the state of war. The activities of this subcommittee have been postponed until agreements are reached by the other subcommittees.

It is pointed out U.S. General (Cooley) of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff is present at today's talks. The reason for his presence at today's meeting in Qiryat Shemona is attributed to the U.S.-Israeli differences on the security arrangements, which Israel demands and the United States rejects.

Deadlock 'Likely' To Prevail

TA271018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] In Qiryat Shemona, the three subcommittees on security arrangements, normalization, and the guarantees for adherence to the agreements are now meeting. Our correspondent Roni Daniyel reports that the Lebanese brought documents outlining their positions, including the matter of the warning stations. Before the talks began, a Lebanese spokesman said a deadlock was likely to prevail because of U.S. mediator Philip Habib's absence. The head of the U.S. delegation to the talks, Morris Draper, met this morning in Beirut with President al-Jumayyil, before coming to Qiryat Shemona.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON EARLY WARNING STATIONS

TA261805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The early warning stations that Israel seeks to establish in Lebanon would not be used to gather information about the Arab states and would include less than 700 soldiers. This was stated this evening by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in a speech to a Bonds delegation. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Minister Sharon added that small groups of terrorists are returning to West Beirut behind the lines of the multinational force.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Melekh] When friends are wrong, there is no other choice but tell them that they are making a mistake. That is the duty of a country that wants to guarantee its existence. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon thus described before Bonds activists the essence of the argument between the Israeli Government and the U.S. Administration. This is not a confrontation because, after all, a traditional deep friendship prevails between the two countries. These two countries, the defense minister pointed out, disagree on the issue of the security arrangements Israel is seeking in Lebanon. He explained that the main goal is to prevent the terrorists from once again turning Lebanon into the capital of international terror. He added that 8,000 terrorists are now in Lebanon, in the north and in Al-Biqa', and are also returning to West Beirut. The defense minister disclosed that they are returning through the lines of the multinational force, although not with its approval.

[Sharon -- in English] The terrorists started to return to Beirut. And I would say it is a kind of sad story but it is a fact that behind the barrier of the multinational force -- and I am sure that it is completely against their will and desire -- but the facts are that behind this barrier of the multinational force, terrorists are coming back, though still in small numbers, back into the terrorists camps in West Beirut.

[Ben-Melekh translates the above and continues] As for the early warning stations, Israel is seeking to establish in southern Lebanon, the defense minister said this would involve three small stations with less troops than the number published in Washington, less than 700 soldiers. Only Israel is capable of manning these stations, Sharon said, only Israelis are expert in identifying terrorists and the differences between the various factions in Lebanon.

[Sharon -- in English] These are not stations equipped with electronic devices. It is not the Sinai; the problem there is entirely different. As a matter of fact, the use of this term of early warning stations -- we started to use it because that was a term which was known here in the region, but, the term which we are discussing now -- I would say the term that we call it -- is antiterror supervision stations. It has nothing to do with any electronics, it is not directed against any Arab countries, though I heard that these stations might cover all the area from Oman on the Indian Ocean to Morocco on the Atlantic but that is not the idea at all. We have got an entirely different purpose and aim. I tried to explain it to Ambassador Habib in detail.

[Ben-Melekh translates the above and continues] In question is not a recurrence of the early warning stations in the Sinai. These stations will not follow events in the Arab states. Israel will not use them against Syria. Their purpose is to prevent the return of terrorists, Sharon said. Israel will only need them for a limited period of time, until Lebanon has rebuilt it security forces and can cope with this challenge on its own.

The defense minister pointed out that Israel does not want to involve the Americans in this issue; it would be a horrible tragedy if a U.S. soldier were killed there. As for the other forces, UNIFIL and the multinational force, Israel cannot trust them. [end recording]

U.S. 'COMPROMISE' ON WARNING STATIONS REPORTED

TA271035 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1022 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The leftist Beirut newspaper AL-LIWA' reported this morning that the United States has a compromise proposal on the disputed issue of the warning stations in Lebanon. According to the proposal, no warning stations will be established in Lebanon. The United States will oversee terrorist movement in the area by its spy satellites and will supply the information to Israel. This was reported to the newspaper by a diplomatic source in Beirut who asked to remain anonymous.

CHIEF OF STAFF DISCUSSES LEBANON, SYRIANS

TA211140 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Jan 83 pp 1, 18 Political Supplement

[Interview with Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan by Eytan Haber -- date, place not given]

[Text] Question: Mr Chief of Staff, you have just returned from a debate at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. As we already know, the debate was extremely stormy. Nearly all the committee sessions in which you participate are marked by clashes with Knesset members.

What do you have against members of the committee or what do they have against you?

Answer: I appear at the committee to summarize the lessons of the war in Lebanon. You should ask the MK's what angers them regarding the lessons of the war.

Question: But you know, Mr Chief of Staff, that the complaints about you are a result of your political remarks, as they were seen and heard by committee members. Why should you, as chief of staff, dirty your hands in this business of settlement in Judaea and Samaria, for instance?

Answer: First of all, who said this was dirty? It is a very healthy business.

Question: I didn't say it wasn't.

Answer: So I am not sticking my finger into any pie. This is completely different. The problem concerns not what is said, but who says it, because people who previously held official positions used the same phrases to discuss the settlement in Judaea and Samaria and the security need for settling those parts of the country and the security significance for Israel.

Question: Who, for example?

Answer: Why don't you go over the papers yourself?

Question: Do you mean the chiefs of staff?

Answer: Certainly, and I am telling you that the problem is not what is being said, but who says it, period. I can help you. Mota Gur said, for instance, in 1978: "Throughout the foreseeable future, it would be impossible to give up our military presence in Judaea and Samaria. In my opinion, the Judaea and Samaria ridge is so important both to the land defense from an attack from the east, and possibly even more so as deterrence from air attacks from the east, that I believe these areas must remain under Israel's military control."

Question: As I know you, you also indulge in writing poetry from time to time. I know that in the longer debates you sometimes scribble a few verses. Do you by chance have one on you...?

Answer: I do, if you so desire:

I have no reason to make excuses,
Because if we compare to any individual,
From the past, holding the same office,
Everyone will see,
That this is not a political problem,
But who makes the cry.

Question: Do you feel that people "are on the lookout for you," that you are "being trapped?"

Answer: Who, me? Are you kidding? Only a person who seeks shelter is being sought. I am not hiding. I am there, speaking openly. I will continue to say what I think and anyone who wants to may hear it, and those who do not will not.

Question: Are you usually a bit apprehensive before committee debates? After all, you are being tried summarily?"

Answer: No fear.

Question: Do you happen to have a few lines on that?

Answer: What if I do?

Question: Then maybe you would care to let us share them with you.

Answer: You are a bit of a nag on this. Here, take some more lines, and that is all.

It does not scare me,
I will say what I think
Because no remnant or survivor would remain
From all this verbiage
Scattered in the streets.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, a day after you take off your uniform, in about 3 months, will you "settle accounts" with everyone?

Answer: What do you mean with everyone? Am I against everybody? They are not many, they are insignificant, and settling accounts is not my business. I am not looking for them. Those who have to seek them will also find them.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, let's move on to another subject. This week there were reports in the press that Soviet SAM-5's have reached Syria. Are these reports accurate?

Answer: What is published in the newspapers is not always correct. Sometimes it is. SAM-5's may have reached Syria, that is true, or at least part of it is. We are following this process. We are not surprised; it had to happen.

Question: The Syrians already have SAM-2's, SAM-3's, 5's [as published], 6's, 7's, and 8's. Why all the excitement? Why should we fear the SAM-5's.

Answer: Regarding the SAM-5's, as long as we do not know exactly what it is, I could not tell you if we are afraid of this missile nor could I tell you what the implication of its inclusion in the Syrian Army is. This is a matter with which we are currently busily dealing.

Question: Nonetheless, this missile introduces a new factor into our area. What is new about it? Why is it a threat?

Answer: The new aspect involves range and altitude. This is a missile that surpasses the range of the other missiles we have known so far.

Question: If such a missile is launched tomorrow morning from sovereign Syrian territory toward an Air Force plane, will this, from our point of view, constitute a pretext for some sort of action?

Answer: This is a hypothetical question. Such things are not determined in advance.

Question: Are Soviet experts expected to go to Syria with these missiles? Are we going back to what happened during the war of attrition in the 1970's on the Egyptian front, when because of the Soviet experts we were limited in action and did not hit targets manned by the Russians?

Answer: I don't know whether there is room to compare the present period with the period of the war of attrition in Egypt. Of course the presence of Soviet operators makes a difference or could change the approach and the concept, but it may also not change a thing. All in all, we shoot back at anyone who fires at us, no matter who he is. Yet it is too premature to talk about it.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, do the SAM-5's currently limit the Israeli Air Force's activity?

Answer: Not today.

Question: And will we alter the Air Force's operations following the entry of the Soviet missiles and advisers?

Answer: We will not change the Israeli Air Force's plans and activity as a result of the introduction of the missiles.

Question: These days, negotiations are underway for the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon. Mr Chief of Staff, strictly from Syria's viewpoint, is it worth their while to leave Lebanon at all?

Answer: I really could not say that from the Syrian point of view it is important for them to leave Lebanon, unless they attach special importance to our withdrawal from there. So what do they say? It is worthwhile for us to leave Lebanon in return for Israel's pullout, but I don't think the Syrians think along these lines.

Question: So?

Answer: In my opinion, these will be prolonged negotiations, but it doesn't mean that they will not ultimately leave Lebanon. The Arab countries are not too happy nor were they overjoyed in the past with the Syrians sitting in Lebanon. I don't think the Saudis are happy about it and the Jordanians certainly are not. They are pressuring for a withdrawal and have done so in the past as well. What is involved is also financial matters because the Saudis are paying the price for Syria's stay in Lebanon. In general, from a pan-Arab point of view, this is a rather involved matter. The Libyans, for instance, are pressuring the Syrians not to leave Lebanon. I think the Algerians are doing the same. So if the Syrians ultimately do leave Lebanon, they will try to exact the highest price for it they can.

Question: From whom?

Answer: From anyone who has any say or involvement in this campaign. In my opinion, the Syrians would have sought any way conceivable to make the PLO remain in Lebanon and continue to operate against us from there.

Question: So what will the Jews do then?

Answer: Why should I tell you what we will do? This is a secret. I will not tell them. I will let them live in a dilemma. In general, I am not saying this is the correct scenario. I am only saying this is what the Syrians would have wanted. Now we are in the midst of negotiations and it is necessary to be stubborn and patient. It is necessary to insist that the conditions for the return of the Syrians and the terrorists to Lebanon do not recur.

Question: Could this happen?

Answer: Yes, if we give up and pack up and go home.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, will the processes, as they are beginning to take shape at the moment -- lengthy negotiations moving slowly, the growing Syrian military power, Soviet encouragement, prolonged IDF stay in Lebanon -- not lead to war?

Answer: Not necessarily. It depends a lot on the way one looks at us. If we are deemed weak, this would invite war. If we are thought of as strong and patient, this will remove the danger of war.

Question: How long do you think we will remain in Lebanon?

Answer: As long as it takes.

Question: As chief of staff, aren't you afraid that we are focusing all our attention on events in Lebanon and, meanwhile, there is such great Syrian military growth? Are we alert enough? Is the Syrian fortification of such magnitude that it should turn on a warning signal for you, as chief of staff, and for the entire army?

Answer: The Syrian military strengthening is manifest in a quantitative growth of the army and in qualitative improvement in certain types of warfare means. This, in fact, is a process that is occurring in all the Arab armed forces; it happened in the past and will occur in the future as well. They have unlimited financial resources so they buy nearly everything they want. We are undertaking all appropriate moves to deal with this process. We are calm. We only need to know very well what takes place across the border, follow it, and reach the proper conclusions. We have very good methods for dealing with this.

Question: At what is Syria's strengthenig directed? Do they want to capture the Golan Heights? All of Israel?

Answer: It is hard to tell with the Arabs. They are capable of saying that the great buying spree is aimed at strengthening their internal regimes. And if we say that all these massive arms are directed against us, they again will come out with accusations against us. But for what does Saudi Arabia need F-15's? Why does it need AWACS? Of what is it afraid and against whom is it defending itself? And who threatens Jordan? Why does Jordan need chieftains? Why does it need SAM-8's? So I want to tell you: One should consider the possibility that the entire Arab strengthening ultimately will be directed against us.

Question: But I asked about the Syrians. What do they want?

Answer: The Syrians want what all the Arabs want: to annihilate Israel. They do not want a small piece of Israel, nor do they want a large piece of it, or only some part. They do not want this and they do not want that. They simply want to liquidate Israel.

Question: Do the Lebanese also want to eliminate us?

Answer: I was not talking about the Lebanese.

Question: But you said "all Arabs?"

Answer: The Christian Lebanese told us they are not Arabs and I am not saying that all the Arabs want to eliminate us. The Egyptians made peace with us and I am saying that those Arabs who have not yet made peace with us want to liquidate us. Very well, this is the kind of statement politicians make and then people come and say that I, the chief of staff, am dabbling in politics.

So I repeat: The Arabs want to annihilate us, but the Egyptians have excluded themselves and the Lebanese are about to join them. Perhaps tomorrow Jordan also will climb down from this tree and perhaps something could still happen to the Saudis. Who knows? Meanwhile, things are not like that. Whoever climbs down from that tree of annihilation will be crossed off the list.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, on the eve of the war in Lebanon, you told me in an interview published in the newspaper that you believe there can be a military solution to the problem of terrorism. Last week, the prime minister's adviser on terrorist affairs Refa'el Eytan said that we should expect another 100 years of terrorism. Which Refa'el Eytan is right? You or him?

Answer: Is it my fault his name is like mine? You will not believe this, but even our wives' names are the same. His wife is named Miryam and so is mine. But to the point: I said a military solution could be found to the problem of terrorism in Lebanon. I did not say there is a military solution to the problem of international terrorism nor did I say there was a military solution to the problem of the bomb in the Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem or to the bomb planted on a bus in Tel Aviv. In Lebanon, there was a military solution and we provided it. Now, if three people shoot at a Jew in Mexico, the war in Lebanon will not solve that problem. I do not know what kind of war could solve the problem of that kind of terrorism.

Question: But there were also Katyushas directed at Quryat Shemona. It is only sheer luck that they were not fired.

Answer: But if it were not for the war, a thousand-score more Katyushas could have fallen.

Question: Suppose we have resolved the problem of terrorism along the Lebanese border. But now, in full force and impetus, is the problem of terrorism against us in Lebanon?

Answer: It doesn't have to be terrorism. It is a conglomeration of many shooters. Those who fire at our soldiers in Lebanon would also have shot at our children in Misgav 'am if we were not inside Lebanon today. One must remember that inside Lebanon there remains a large Palestinian population which is hostile to us. But they also shoot at each other. The war being waged against us inside Lebanon is directed and guided, in my opinion, by the Syrians, either from inside their territory or by those who are in Lebanon. The Syrians have explicit orders not to allow actions to take place from inside their lines since we had reacted sharply. They are now afraid that we would once again react strongly. However, in other places they do not care.

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, not many mothers in Israel like to hear that their sons were worn out by or involved in the fighting between the Druze and the Phalangists in Lebanon. What could you tell a mother of an Israeli soldier today, who finds himself caught in the cross fire between the Druze and the Phalangists?

Answer: That our soldiers are not caught between the Druze and the Phalangists: They come to where fire is being directed by both sides in order to make peace between them. When our soldiers arrive, the sides stop shooting at each other.

Question: But there have already been casualties, some were even killed.

Answer: It was not intentional shooting.

Question: If you will pardon me, Mr Chief of Staff, do you really think a mother whose son was killed in the war between the Druze and the Phalangists cares two hoots whether it was intentional fire or not?

Answer: I have received letters from bereaved parents whose sons died in Lebanon. I would not like to use their own words, the words of the people who paid the dearest price; I would not like to say how they, the bereaved parents, regard Israel's role.

Question: Why don't you want to say it?

Answer: Because it contradicts a lot of hysterical shouts about this in the public. I want to say that anyone who is not satisfied with the fact that our soldiers are under fire is 100 percent right. I too am not pleased with this. We do not want our soldiers to be under fire, in Lebanon or anywhere. But only yesterday two soldiers were killed in the Jordan Rift Valley without fire. A civilian semitrailer hit a road-block position there, killing them.

Question: How can one compare the two?

Answer: These soldiers who are shot at inside Lebanon could have been in a far more serious predicament in other places were it not for the war in Lebanon. They could have been injured along the Lebanese border, or in raids on terrorist bases inside Lebanon. They could have been injured as pedestrains strolling through the streets of Nahariyya.

Question: But still there is a difference...

Answer: I have not finished. The image people want to create in the public is that we are playing the role of an Israeli police force between the Druze and the Christians. This is a distortion of reality. We are not police. We are doing our best because only we can talk to both parties, cool them down somewhat, find a compromise. In the last few days -- knock on wood -- the scope of the incidents has been reduced to nearly zero.

Question: If you will pardon me, did we believe, before the war broke out, that this would happen?

Answer: No. We had no idea that such a campaign would break out between the Phalangists and the Druze. No one imagined that this would happen. The Phalangists never even once told us: "If you only come here, the Druze will get it from us."

Question: In short, the Phalangists took us in?

Answer: No, they did not. I believe the Phalangists also did not know what would happen. But when Lebanon was captured, the Christians wanted to go back to the places where they lived, and the Druze objected to this. I think the Phalangists did not believe there would be such strong Druze opposition. We too had no idea of what would happen between them and the Druze in a civil war. Whenever there was told about a civil war, it always centered on the Christians, on the Palestinians, on the Syrians, but never on Druze participation in it. But they were under the Syrians' and the terrorists' area of influence. They got arms from them. We did not think this is what would happen among them. It did not begin when we arrived in Lebanon nor will it finds its solution once we are out of there. In my opinion, this is a long-term problem in Lebanon.

Question: Meanwhile, the terrorists are returning to Beirut and are taking up positions in the Al-Biqa' area?

Answer: I don't know that this is so in regard to Beirut.

Question: The papers said so.

Answer: And who says the papers are right?

Question: But you said previously that not everything the papers print must be wrong either?

Answer: There may be terrorists in Beirut, but all in all the situation of the terrorists in Beirut, Lebanon, the Arab countries, cannot be compared to their situation prior to the war. They have lost their bases, their bunkers, their arms depots, and their commands. Everything is gone. The current situation in Lebanon is nothing like it was. There is no room for comparison. And they have no military infrastructure in the other Arab countries. Meanwhile, they are engaged in internal arguments over their future path.

Question: Do you believe in the signs of moderation as evinced now with the PLO?

Answer: No, this is a hoax. I don't believe it.

Question: But this trick could cost them dearly. 'Arafat, for instance, could get a bullet?

Answer: Let him. What signs of moderation has the PLO been showing? How does it come across? Maybe you could tell me. 'Arafat has been telling Egypt that he would not ask it to go back on the Camp David accords, and this is construed to show moderation? If you had said that 'Arafat was showing signs of moderation in seeking ways to live with Israel in peaceful coexistence, this could be seen as a first bud of moderation. It could sound like that, although I would not have believed him. He tells Egypt that he agrees to let them not chop off their own feet, and here in Israel is it being viewed as a sign of moderation? What moderation? This is an illusion.

Question: What should 'Arafat do for you to believe him?

Answer: He should make the Arabs accept Israel's existence, let it live in peace and quiet, stop all the hostile propaganda, and erase from the Palestinian charter the clause that says the Jews should be pushed into the sea, in this phrasing or in another formulation. They must give up the "secular democratic" solution. They must give up the idea that we will be in the water whereas they would be on land, in Israel.

Question: If the vision for the future as you have just described occurred, would you be prepared to shake 'Arafat's hand? Meet with him?

Answer: No. I don't hold the office of handshaker.

Question: You said that after the war in Lebanon the country will experience peace for 30 years. Hardly 40 days passed when they already threw handgreades on a bus in Tel Aviv. What country will experience peace for 30 years?

Answer: Look, when the Bible says -- or if it says so in any other place -- "so the land had rest for 30 years" I presume then, too, there were raids of shepherds on the fields and girls were snatched off farms, and Edomites killed Hebrews, and Canaanites killed the Pharisees and the Jebusites, but the land lay quiet for 30 years. There was no war. They did not have a 6-day war nor did they have a war of independence. They did not mention the petty incidents, or write about them. Who ever wrote about the fact that herds trampled on the wheat after it sprouted or that a herd was beaten until it expired? It played no role in history. That is what I mean.

Question: Meanwhile, the SAM-8's have also reached Jordan?

Answer: Yes, Jordan has recently received SAM-8's.

Question: Who operates them? Jordanians? Soviets?

Answer: I don't know. I only know that currently there are Soviet experts in Jordan. Something very interesting could be taking place there.

Question: What is so interesting?

Answer: Jordan is a country that heavily relies on the West. There are many American advisers in Jordan. It would be very interesting to see how such a pro-Western country like Jordan, with U.S. experts, could withhold the secrets of the Soviet SAM-8's from the West. What will it tell the Americans in Amman who want to know everything about that missile? Maybe the Jordanians do not want to keep the secrets of the Soviet missiles from the Americans? Who knows?

Question: In what way are the SAM-8's dangerous to Israel?

Answer: Well, one cannot destroy Israel with SAM-8's.

Question: Let's go on to a totally different matter. How has the work of the commission of inquiry on the massacre in the refugee camps affected morale and the atmosphere in the army? Has it affected your work too? How has it influenced your relations with the defense minister? With the head of the intelligence branch?

Answer: I feel no effect. There is no effect on my work with the nine, I beg your pardon eight other people who have been warned of the consequences of the conclusions reached by the commission. I am the ninth. It makes not an iota of a difference to me.

Question: What do you expect from the commission of inquiry?

Answer: I don't worry myself with such thoughts at all. Now that I have my own olive press and I pick olives, I can tell you that I don't worry about it one bit. This business simply does not bother me.

Question: One could gather from remarks made by politicians and media reports that there has been a decline in the IDF's fighting morale, particularly as a result of the war in Lebanon. Is this impression well-founded?

Answer: Of course not. There are no grounds for the argument that the fighting morale has dropped. Our moral conduct during the long war and in populated areas was exemplary. Not one prisoner was killed throughout the war in Lebanon to the best of my knowledge.

Question: So what is the source of all the stories?

Answer: Ask those who spread them. I want to tell you -- and take this down -- that in the Litani operation (and do I need to remind you that I was not the chief of staff then) there were complaints that the IDF's fighting morale had gone down. After that operation there were even a number of trials concerning the killing of prisoners.

Incidentally, I do not regret any one of the leniencies I decided on or the pardons I granted. Not one. I would also like to emphasize that as a result of the Litani operation there was another trial where a commander of a battalion, two officers and a sergeant were involved. They were charged with the murder of three prisoners. The battalion commander was acquitted and I waived the sentence of the three others, the two officers and the sergeant sentenced to prison. Not one word was written about that trial or the pardon I granted, nothing was revealed, or leaked, and there were no cries and shouts. To this day, I wonder why. I even know that one journalist who purports to be a saint, knows about the trial, and also about the pardon. I think quite a few people know why they have remained silent in this case. Therefore, I am also at one with myself on my decisions regarding Pinto and Sade [the two tried for the above killings].

Question: In the last few days, there were reports of instructions by you to "harass" the Arab residents of Judaea and Samaria, to drive them away, punish them. Mr Chief of Staff, aren't you overdoing it?

Answer: Me? I stand behind every word I said on the matter. During my term of staff, no tanks were deployed in Nabulus, yet there were chiefs of staff who did use tanks in Nabulus. During my term and up until 1981, 44 houses in the territories were demolished. In the 4 years before that, 163 were destroyed. Do you know how many Arab inhabitants were deported from the territories between 1967 and the time I entered office as chief of staff? It was 853. And during my term, how many? You will never guess. Four.

Question: But why "harass?"

Answer: In conditions of rioting these are the best means to prevent attacks on and firing at the Arab population. This is the right way. My suggestions on how to deal with the population were published last week in the papers. So what is wrong here? I wrote that "it is necessary to take firm action against instigators and to arrest them at any opportunity." Is it not right to do so? "To make it very plain to the Mikhtars that they shoulder personal responsibility for what takes place in the region." Something wrong here? "To decrease prison terms that cause us great expense and employ heavier fines instead." What else did I instruct? "It is important to show that we take a favorable attitude toward the good ones and a negative one toward the bad ones." And "it is necessary to avoid the cases where a few soldiers are faced with masses because the outcome of such a situation is shooting."

Question: Mr Chief of Staff, in 3 months, you probably will have to retire from your job as chief of staff when your term ends. In the democratic process as it is practiced in Israel, what weight does your recommendation on the next chief of staff for the IDF carry?

Answer: I don't know. This will be the first time I will be in such a situation where I am asked who I think should be the next chief of staff of the IDF. So far, I have not been asked.

Question: And if you are?

Asnwer: Then I will give it some thought.

Question: Who would you recommend to be your heir, do you know?

Answer: Yes, I do.

Question: And if you are asked to serve for a 6th year as chief of staff, would you?

Answer: The situation is: If I say "yes," this would mean that I am inviting a proposal for a 6th year. If I say "no," it would mean that I have already given an answer to someone who never even asked the question. So it is not fair; I was not asked and I will not say. The spoon is not stuck in my mouth and so I cannot complain.

Question: And where do you plan to go after the chief of staff's office?

Answer: Toward 030. That is the direction home.

Question: What if you are offered something in politics?

Answer: So I go back to the previous question. Suppose I say now: "Make me an offer," and then everyone would jump up and say what they think about the matter, no matter with what words. I am finishing my term. When I finish my term and service, I will go home.

Question: Do you like the idea of dealing with carpentry and with the production of olive oil? Wouldn't that be an "anticlimax?"

Answer: On the contrary, it would be better.

Question: And if, say after 2 years, you are offered something in the public life again?

Answer: What do you mean, dealing with public matters? That I should manufacture wooden sculptures for an old-age home? Possibly.

Question: Will you be active in national public matters?

Answer: Come and see me 2 years after my retirement and then we will talk about it.

Question: Suppose you leave the post of chief of staff in 3 months. You have been in the military service for 35 years, quite a substantial part of your life. What does a man like you do the first day after retirement?

Answer: What does a man do in the morning? He wakes up, gets up, and puts on his pants.

STATEMENT DEMANDING SHARON RESIGNATION DENIED

TA251851 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Mk Shulamit Aloni apologized in the Knesset plenum this evening for the statement released this afternoon by the Knesset Subcommittee for Basic Laws, which she heads. The statement implied that the subcommittee had passed an explicit resolution that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon must resign for having violated two basic laws. Aloni explained that the matter of government supervision of the army had been on the subcommittee's agenda and that there had been a discussion, but no vote had been taken nor had any resolution been passed.

REPORTAGE ON SADCC CONFERENCE IN LESOTHO

Industry Ministers Meeting

MB251706 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] The Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] industrial ministers meeting held today at the Hilton reviewed progress and viewed and outline of action for future implementation of industrial development. The meeting was also convened to assess and approve policy and plan of action for industrial coordination and development on a regional basis.

According to the chairman of the SADCC industry ministers, Mr P.B. Mramba of Tanzania, following the SADCC ministerial conference in Arusha, Tanzania last year, 53 industrial projects were submitted for immediate implementation, and 34 others were proposed for feasibility studies. These industrial projects are going to be reviewed by the council of ministers meeting which begins tomorrow before being presented to the donor countries later.

Mr Mramba also disclosed that these proposed industrial projects had been conceived on a basis of the regional needs of the people within the SADCC countries. The chairman of the industries meeting also points out that the SADCC member countries are also expected to approve policy and plan of action for regional industrial coordination and development.

SADCC Anti-Apartheid

MB251833 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1800 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Text] Member countries of the Southern African Development Coordination Council [SADCC] are not gathering in Maseru this week to fight South Africa. So says Botswana's vice president and head of the SADCC, Peter Mmusi. He says newspaper reports that the SADCC is anti-South African are nonsense and small-minded. In his words: We are not enemies of South Africa, but we hate the apartheid system of that country.

More Delegations Arrive

MB261241 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Almost all the ministers for the nine Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] member countries and representatives of international donor agencies from all over the world have arrived in Maseru to attend the second SADCC donor conference, including the commissioner of the European Economic Community [EEC] and head of the EEC delegation, His Excellency Mr Edgar (Pishanu), who is arriving this afternoon. The conference will be officially opened by His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II tomorrow at 0700 in Maseru.

The international community has attached great importance to the Maseru SADCC conference following the extended tour of Europe by the minister of planning and economic development, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, during the latter part of last year.

This morning SADCC ministers held an important council meeting to be expected to draw a comprehensive guideline for regional plans and their implementation. The SADCC ministerial council is also expected to review regional energy, industrial, land utilization, and water cooperation during the SADCC meeting.

A total of $1.6 million has been allocated to the development of the agricultural and industrial sectors.

Reviews, Ratifies Decisions

MB270850 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The South African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] council of ministers yesterday formally examined and ratified decisions adopted by some of the other institutions, according to the executive secretary of SADCC, Mr. S.A. Blumeris, the council of minister's meeting reviewed reports submitted by all sectoral meetings between the nine SADCC states ranging from agriculture, food security, fisheries, forestry and transport. The regional energy situation was also reviewed. Mr Blumeris also pointed out that the transport sector would be one of the key issues on the SADCC agenda today. Agriculture and industry will also be high on the agenda in view of their importance within the regional economies of SADCC. The council of ministers has also prepared progress reports on the energy and transport sectors as SADCC attaches great importance on these sectors.

Mr Blumeris reported to the ministerial council that discussions with and visits to most of the donor agencies had proved profitable as these organizations had expressed support and understanding. Various United Nations agencies had been approached on sectoral requirements of SADCC in future.

The official opening of the SADCC in Maseru will be by His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II at the Hilton this morning at 0900.

Bomb Blasts Reported

MB271018 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] There have been three bomb blasts in the Lesotho capital of Maseru. The blasts occurred as preliminary talks began in the 2-day conference of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. The explosions were heard by residents and people from surrounding areas, although there has been no official announcements. Observers in Maseru see the incident as part of a campaign by the Lesotho Liberation Army to influence donor countries to stop giving aid to Lesotho because Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan has not held elections for 14 years. The conference is to be opened later today by Lesotho's King Moshoeshoe.

DOE, SEKOU TOURE, STEVENS AT MANO RIVER SUMMIT

AB221133 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Jan 83

[Text] Freetown today went carnival as thousands of people, including school children, clad women, and masqueradersthronged the streets to give a tumultuous welcome to the respective heads of state of Guinea and Liberia: President Ahmed Sekou Toure and Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe, who arrived here to attend the 2-day Mano River Union summit. On their arrival at Lungi [international airport], the two visiting heads of state received a red carpet welcome from President Siaka Stevens and his Cabinet ministers who accompanied them to the presidential lounge following their inspection of the guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the Republic of Sierra Leone military forces. The three heads of state of the Mano River Union were accorded a rousing welcome as they drove from the presidential lounge through thousands of cheering crowds, including school children who lined the route to (?Tagun ferry) terminal.

On arrival at (?Cisay ferry) terminal, the three heads of state and their entourage were greeted with deafening shouts of a chorus: Doe Toure Shaki [Steven's nickname] by thousands of enthusiastic people waving, drumming, and clapping.

From (?Cisay) terminal, the three heads of state drove in an open car through a sea of enthusiastic welcomers. On his arrival at (?Cisay station) accompanied by President Stevens, President Ahmed Sekou Toure met members of the diplomatic corps in Sierra Leone, led by the dean, Ambassador J. Morris of Liberia.

From (?Cisay) lodge, the diplomats went to (?Kebio) lodge where they were received by Liberia's head of state, Dr Samuel K. Doe. Addressing the opening session of the 2-day summit of the Mano River Union at (Benkumani) conference center in Freetown yesterday, the president, Dr Siaka Stevens, noted how appropriate it was to [words indistinct] of survival from political tension and other social economic problems. President Stevens reminded his colleagues of those compelling factors that had forced them to establish the OAU and several other cooperative groupings in other parts of Africa aimed at developing and improving the living standard of their peoples.

Comparing the Mano River Union with other forms of economic, financial, monetary, and technical cooperation in other parts of the world, Dr Stevens pointed out that the union commitment was that its member states were able to translate their ideals (?purposefully) into functional and pragmatic form to promote self-sustaining reliance and furthering a commonality of interests. President Stevens (?enumerated) the union's successes in several years and emphasized the need to buttress liberalization of trade with fairness and equity, ensuring benefits and harmonization of import duties as well as other fiscal incentives to achieve the quality of economic activities they seek and true economic cooperation.

In his statement, the Liberian head of state, Commander Dr Samuel Doe reminded his colleagues of the strong ties of friendship they have succeeded in [words indistinct] those obstacles that had (?deterred) the progress of the subregion and has rendered the Mano River Union a symbol of unity for the three countries. He maintained that before ECOWAS implemented a policy of free movement of citizens that idea was already practiced by member states of the Mano River Union. The Liberian head of state urged his colleagues to desist from allowing minor differences to overshadow the successes they earlier attained.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea in his speech, urged that the meeting must consolidate the spirit of solidarity in order to justify the good work of those who took the initiative in creating the Mano River Union. The Guinean president said that we must stand up to our responsibility to serve our independence and the character of our people, progress, dignity, unity, and justice, President Toure maintained, are not given freely but must be conquered. On the spirit of unity, President Sekou Toure advocated that citizens of any member state should not be considered as foreigners in any other state, because of the people of the three member states ought to be morally and otherwise united enough to consider themselves as brothers and sisters and not as foreigners. Criminals, he warned, should be dealt with regardless of their countries of origin.

ALGERIA

MONTANE-LED CUBAN DELEGATION ARRIVES 25 JAN

LD261226 Algiers APS in English 1140 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Algiers, 26/1/83 (APS) -- A Cuban delegation headed by Jesus Montane, Politburo member in charge with External Affairs Department at the Communist Party Central Committee, arrived here yesterday.

The delegation will start today talks with FLN Foreign Department, and will visit later some industrial and social plants.

Mr Lazhari Cheriet, head of the department charged with relations with other parties, greeted Mr Montane at arrival at the airport.

Talks Begin 26 Jan

LD261352 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Political talks between the FLN [National Liberation Front] and the Cuban Communist Party began this morning at the headquarters of the party's External Relations Committee. The talks, chaired on the Algerian side by the official responsible for relations with other parties, Lazhari Cheriet, and on the Cuban side by Jesus Montane Oropesa, member of the Politburo and official responsible for the general department of the [Cuban Communist Party] Central Committee's external relations, dealt with relations between the two parties and ways of developing them. The two sides discussed the development of the world situation and the activities of national liberation movements, especially in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, and the Mediterranean. The two sides analyzed the situation in the Nonaligned Movement on the eve of the movement's summit conference in New Delhi.

SECRETARY GENERAL BELKHEIR VISITS YUGOSLAVIA

For Yugoslav reportage on the visit by Secretary General of the Democratic Republic of Algeria Presidency Larbi Belkheir, including meetings with Fadilj Hodza, member of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, and Dr Aleksandar Fira, president of the Yugoslav Constitutional Court, see the Yugoslavia section of the 27 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LIBYA

ETHIOPIAN COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ENDS VISIT

LD270036 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jan JANA -- Ethiopian Communications Minister Yusuf Ahmed and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this morning.

In a statement to JANA, Ahmed praised the positive results realized in various fields by his visit to the Jamahiriyah.

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER PAYS VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

For Yugoslav media coverage of the visit to Yugoslavia of Commander in Chief of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Armed Forces Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, see the Yugoslavia section of the 27 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

MOROCCO

RABAT ANNOUNCES DEATH OF GENERAL AHMED DLIMI

LD261430 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Statement from Ministry of the Royal Household, Protocol, and Chancellory; date and place of release not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Ministry of the Royal Household, Protocol, and Chancellory announces the death of General Ahmed Dlimi, director of the office of his majesty's aide de camp and commander of the Royal Armed Forces in the southern area, this evening following a collision of his car with a truck while he was returning to his house in Marrakech after having had the honor of being received in audience by his illustrious majesty.

The death of Gen Dlimi is considered a great loss to Morocco and the Royal Armed Forces, in which he worked with faithfullness, seriousness, and devotion. In the face of this enormous tragedy and the great loss, the Ministry of the Royal Household extends sincerest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to his majesty the supreme commander of the Royal Armed Forces, the members of those forces, and the family of the deceased, and beseeches God, glory to His omnipotence, to grant the deceased His profound mercy and place him in His extensive gardens and to protect his majesty the king.

The wise saying says: He is the best to protect and the best to help. [Koranic verse]

New Ministry Appointments

LD270011 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Following the death of General Ahmed Dlimi, killed in a road accident in Marrakech on Tuesday afternoon, 25 January, His Majesty King Hassan II has issued his noble order appointing:

Colonel Major Mohamed Cherkaoui, commander of the Royal Guard, as director of the office of his majesty's aide-de-camp;

Colonel Abdelhak el Kadiri, as director general of the general directorate of research and students;

Mr Hamid el Bouhairi as director general of national security;

Colonel Major Abdelaziz Bennani as deputy commander of the Southern Region.

HASSAN INVITES MEETING OF PLO, ISRAELIS

LD260938 Rabat Domestic Service in AVabic 2015 GMT 25 Jan 83

["Text" of interview with King Hassan II as broadcast by Paris Radio on its "Third World Press Club" program on 25 January; interview given to Eric Rouleau of LE MONDE, Christian Casteran of MATIN DE PARIS, (Francoise Otter) of LE FIGARO, Mireille Duteil of LE POINT, and Dominique Lagarde of QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Question by Mirielle Duteil: Your Majesty, last spring you signed a defense agreement with the Americans. I consider this agreement to manifest your desire to assert the special nature of your relations with the United States at the expense of France, your traditional friend. A question raises itself in this connection: Do you not believe that there is some danger in working for the introduction of the superpowers into Africa, particularly since President Mitterrand always affirms the need for them not to interfere in African conflicts?

His majesty's answer: First, there is no agreement. The Constitution is explicit in this respect; any agreement must be ratified by the Parliament. Since I never pursue a foreign policy without consulting my people and without their close participation, I do not see how I could sign a defense agreement with any country, even France, without the knowledge of my country and people. Therefore, there is no defense agreement.

Second, even if there were such an agreement, I do not see how it could be at the expense of France, since I believe that France and the United States are allies; therefore, I am not wrong in that; France, while it decided to leave NATO, remains committed within the framework of solidarity with the allies.

Finally, I have taken into consideration the advice of the president of the French Republic to keep Morocco and the African countries far away from the superpowers. Nevertheless, this point of view cannot possibly be allowed to hamper the will of a sovereign and independent country if the necessity arises; and there is at the moment such a necessity.

Question: Is this connected with transit facilities granted to the American forces?

His majesty's answer: The matter is connected with this.

Mireille Duteil: But that did not materialize in fact, Your Majesty.

His majesty's answer: I can answer you with total frankness. This did not take place; it has not yet taken place. I confirm this. But it will actually take place and with very clear and precise conditions.

Program announcer: We have touched on French-Moroccan relations and on Morocco's foreign policy and the role of the United States. I believe that Erich Rouleau wants to put a question on Morocco's policy, which assumes great importance in the Middle East.

Eric Rouleau: Your Majesty, over the years you have presented initiatives aimed at achieving a just peace in the Middle East, and at the recent Fes summit, together with the rest of the heads of the Arab states, you drew up a settlement proposal which in the event of its execution will naturally lead to mutual recognition and to the establishment of peace between Israel and a future Palestinian state. But Washington does not want to recognize the PLO and opposes the establishment of a Palestinian state. Indeed, it even opposes the convening of a conference under the supervision of the Security Council. It appears that there can be no reconciliation between these stances. The question raised is: How do you intend to confront the crisis? Should it continue?

His majesty's reply: Indeed, I always believed in the need for just and permanent peace in the Middle East, because the destiny of mankind is to live in a permanent state of peace. War is an exception, but it has become the rule in the Middle East at the expense of [word indistinct] generations and future generations. Certainly it may seem to an expert in Middle East affairs, like you -- and I must say here that I always read your articles with interest and the articles of your late colleague, Edward (Sa'd), and I used to very much enjoy what you wrote about the Middle East -- it may seem that there are obstacles with regard to the stands of this or that party; but I see that there is above all a possibility for dialogue, because I cannot find any other expression than this (?to describe) President Reagan's declaration about his plan before the Fes summit conference meeting. We prepared our plan without knowing that Reagan had also prepared his plan.

Our visit to Washington was aimed at learning what could be reconciled and what could not be reconciled, bearing in mind that there is a definite matter, namely, that the seventh clause of the Arab peace plan is, in our united opinion, the key to make the Reagan plan and the Fes plan [word indistinct] which could be resolved with the same key, namely, the recognition of Israel's right to live in peace and security with its neighbors. Now, who will represent the Palestinians? The PLO or someone other than the PLO? The Jordanians? The Palestinians of the Gaza Strip, or of the West Bank? Or is it possible to make the PLO participate simultaneously with Jordan or Egypt or in any other way? These matters are, in my view, [word indistinct] matters that constitute obstacles more difficult than the principles themselves. But we can remove these obstacles. I assure you that I am optimistic in this respect.

Question by Dominique Lagardo: What are your views on the dialogue between the PLO and the peace supporters in Israel?

His majesty's answer: I believe that there must be a beginning. Christianity and Islam began with some missionaries and spread later on. I have met the men of the peace front [jabhat as-salam] twice: first in 1980 and second during my stay in Washington 3 months ago. At that time, they expressed the desire that Moroccan TV show this interview. I told them: You must be patient; a man must not exhaust his ammunition all at once. I shall now allow the presentation of that interview in order to show that the matter is connected with a very long process and requires patience; it is not possible to publish everything on the front pages of the newspapers.

Question: Are they the same individuals that met Mr 'Arafat?

His majesty's answer: Yes, they are the same.

Question: Your Majesty: Yasir 'Arafat stated yesterday that an agreement has been reached in principle with these Israeli individuals to hold a meeting in the form of a conference or a debate between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Can Morocco host this conference, and do you think that this is a good idea?

His majesty's answer: If two fighting parties come to you, they are doing so not with the desire to fight nor to break furniture, but to seek a common ground for understanding. Would it be right for you to refuse or show reluctance in this matter? I now address an official invitation for any meeting or debate that would lead to a meeting between the Israelis and the PLO. I will not be with them but I will stand by their side and will be the first to intervene should the situation arise.

Question by Mireille Duteil: Your Majesty, how do you view the resumption of relations between Israel and Zaire? Do you fear that this might somewhat deepen the estrangement between white Africa and black Africa?

His majesty's reply: It was like a trick. Without mentioning the source from which I received these clarifications, I stress that it is a Zaire source and it is not from the opposition but from an official patriotic source, the name of which I will not divulge. One day I received this personality and I said to him that President Mobutu could have consulted me or his other friends. What happened? The answer was as follows: It is quite simply International Bank and IMF troubles. You know the Israeli lobby in the United States and its influence over banks. Israel told us that if we recognized it and resumed our relations with it, it would give important aid and thus help us ease the acuteness of our troubles.

I told that personality: If you had consulted me I would have told you that Egypt in peacetime is far less rich than when it was at war with Israel.

Egypt used to get $3 billion from the Arab states and after it signed the peace agreement with Israel, I personally, and quite frankly and truthfully, believed it would get double that. In fact it receives only half that figure. If you had consulted me I would have told you about this; and now, did you get anything from the Israelis? He answered in the negative. I also asked him: Have your troubles ended? Again he answered in the negative. Then I told him: You should take the necessary measure so that this state of affairs will not last any longer.

Question [by unnamed reporter]: Do you think that resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and Zaire is an isolated case, or do you fear that it will spread?

His majesty's reply: No, I do not think this really. Maybe Tanzania might be the next victim becase it is living through a very troublesome monetary and economic situation. Nevertheless, I do not think that this will happen.

Question [by unnamed reporter]: On the occasion of President Mitterrand's visit, do you hope that one day France might conclude an agreement on phosphates similar to the agreement it signed with Algeria on gas on the basis of political considerations and not on the basis of world prices?

His majesty's reply: France (?does not have) to involve politics in its trade balances, because we shall not only sell it phosphate but we will also sell it uranium which is extracted from phosphate -- bearing in mind that Morocco has phosphate reserves which can be exploited for approximately 1,600 years. We do not extract uranium at the expense of fertilizers, but we do extract it after recovering all the phosphoric acids. Therefore, we will have uranium after we have benefited from all the other properties. And as Morocco has reserves for 1,600 years, I believe France will not be the only one to benefit. All Europe, in the event it acquires an integrated network of nuclear energy, can import uranium from Morocco. Therefore, I say we do not have to bring political considerations into the equation.

Personally, I intend to have talks with the president when he arrives in Morocco, on the question of building nuclear power stations. This is because the cost of energy is very high. My dream, and there is no harm in dreaming in politics, is linked to the Morocco of the year 2000, as I pointed out earlier. At that time, the population of Morocco will have reached 40 million. We have undertaken some studies from which it became clear that in the year 2080 we will have 70 million people. Therefore, we will have to provide food for 70 million people. I asked the question and I got the answer from a number of experts, including one who is member of the Royal Academy and a (?great) friend who concerns himself a great deal with Morocco's problems. We believe we can provide food for 70 million people by cultivating 7 million hectares of irrigated land.

My dream does not include the (?economic) plans of others. My dream is to create a green coastal area 30 km wide, extending from Tangier to Dakhla, irrigated by a group of sea water desalination plants operating on uranium energy which will cost us nothing because we possess it and we will not be obliged to buy it. After 10-15 years the cost of water desalination will fall and then we will be able to add to the 7 million hectares which will be irrigated by dams and artesian wells of which we have important reserves. We will be able to add a green coastal strip 30-40 km wide between Tangier and Dakhla. I do not think this is impossible. Moroccans are energetic and hard-working people.

Now I return to what I was saying and state that I will raise this question with President Mitterrand. And as I do not want to put all my eggs in one basket, I have decided to adopt the American method of extracting uranium. But I have also decided to ask France to build nuclear stations in Morocco, particularly those which will be on the green coastal belt because they will provide the electric power and the food. I believe it is a project which will arouse the interest of President Mitterrand who is known for his affection for the Third World.

Question [by unnamed reporter]: Have you previously proposed this project, Your Majesty?

His majesty's reply: I am going to present it and I thought about it only recently.

Question [by unnamed reporter]: Have you worked out the costs of this project, Your Majesty?

His majesty's reply: I do not want to discuss the profit potential. This is something starting from scratch and when one starts from zero every operation has a profit potential. What will this require from us? It will require the construction (?of medium or small-size stations). When we think of providing food for 70 million people and making them self-sufficient, the question of profit potential is not raised on the basis of choosing between 20 and 30 or 20 and 40 [as heard] for example, but it is raised on the basis of choosing between nothing and the effort of reaching 20 or 30. Then everything acquires a profit potential.

WESTERN SAHARA

HAKIM ON PLANS FOR 'FINAL ATTACK' ON MOROCCANS

LD261944 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Foreign Minister Ibrahim Hakim stated in Dar es Salaam that Polisario revolutionaries are prepared to launch a final attack to oust Moroccan soldiers from Saharan territories. He added that the last conference of the Polisario, held last October, affirmed the absolute need for continuing the armed struggle in light of Morocco's insistence on refusing to hold direct negotiations with Polisario.

SOMALIA

REACTION TO KENYAN-ETHIOPIAN 'COMMUNIQUE'

EA262128 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Somali Democratic Republic Ministry of Information said today that colonizers of various regimes in Abyssinia have habitually used continued conspiracy and friction as the basis of their internal and external policies, and especially their relations with neighboring countries in order to prolong their colonialism.

For this reason, the spokesman said, the facist regime in Addis Ababa, in order to implement its obdurate policies and continue colonizing other territories, is now attempting to draw other countries into the fire it is fanning in this region of the Horn of Africa. The regime now has a major problem on its hands and is trying very hard to spread the crisis to other countries.

The conspiracy and treachery of the Abyssinian regime are revealed in the so-called communique Abyssinia claims to have jointly issued with Kenya and in which they say that the Somali Democratic Republic is pursuing expansionist policies, the spokesman said.

The spokesman for the Ministry of Information and National Guidance, speaking about the so-called joint communique, which is far from the truth and which has been quoted by international news agencies, said that he hopes that Kenya has not allowed itself to be drawn into such matters.

If it is proved that Kenya has allowed itself to be drawn into such a conspiracy, while enjoying good relations with Somalia, then that will encourage Abyssinia to continue with its naked aggression against Somalia and the colonized people in the Horn of Africa.

It is amazing, the spokesman said, how the Abyssinian regime describes Somalia as a nation pursuing an expansionist policy, while the truth is that the Somali Democratic Republic is a country whose integrity and nationhood have been violated by the Abyssinian regime and its allies. The continued naked provocative aggression by Abyssinia and its allies, occupying territories belonging to the Somali Democratic Republic, have the support of Cuban and other troops.

It is unfortunate for Kenya to take such a stand on this issue, while the nationhood, independence, unity and dignity of the Kenyan people are clearly being threatened by Abyssinia. Clear proof of this is the recent abortive coup in Kenya, in which an accusing finger was pointed at the Abyssinian regime over the role it played in that attempted coup.

The spokesman said it is imperiative for the Kenyan Government, whose president is the current OAU chairman, to take a clear stand on the naked provocative aggression by Abyssinia and its allies against the Somali Democratic Republic. It is also its responsibility to condemn vehemently the $5 billion worth of arms in the hands of Abyssinia, most of which are concentrated on the so-called border it shares with the Somali Democratic Republic, and the 17,000-plus Cuban and other allied troops which are executing its strategic expansionist policies.

Somalia has on many occasions openly stated to the world at large that it wants lasting peace in the region and strengthened good relations with Kenya, and preparations made for Kenya to play its role in ending peacefully the crisis in the Horn of Africa, the spokesman said.

The Ministry of Information spokesman said that taking all this into consideration, and also the continued naked chauvinist provocation by Abyssinia, which has forced the Somali Democratic Republic to defend its territory and nationhood, the Somali Democratic Republic should not be blamed for defending itself.

The Abyssinian regime, relying on Russian and other Warsaw Treaty forces, has violated the OAU, UN, and Nonaligned Charters and principles by waging unprovoked aggression on the Somali Democratic Republic; therefore the unprovoked aggression by Abyssinia and its allies has forced the Somali Democratic Republic to defend its territory in order to maintain its sovereignty, unity, and independence.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES NEW U.S. ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS

EA261833 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Somali Democratic Republic President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today received the letters of credence of new U.S. ambassador to the Somali Democratic Republic, Mr Robert B. Oakley, at the presidency building in Mogadishu.

Speaking on the occasion, Challe Siad said: I am greatly honored to receive your letters of credence, in which you have been appointed to be the U.S. ambassador to the Somali Democratic Republic by the U.S. President, Mr Ronald Reagan. The Somali Democratic Republic president said that he is very satisfied with the good bilateral relations, which are growing stronger day by day, and which will make a major contribution to peace in this region and the world in general.

Challe Siad said that the crisis in the Horn of Africa and the continuous naked provocations by Abyssinia against the Somali Democratic Republic are a product of the unjust and uncalled for assistance extended to Abyssinia by Russia and its allies, who are out to create problems and crises in Somalia.

The president added that, as is known, the tension and friction in this region are the work of those who have given unlimited aid to the Abyssinian colonizers, treating them like spoiled brats.

The SDR President Challe Siad said that the Somali Democratic Republic has helped and will continue to help those struggling for their independence -- such as the WSLF [Western Somalia Liberation Front], Abo and Eritrea -- to achieve their just rights to self-determination.

The president thanked the U.S. Government for its continued assistance to the Somalia Democracic Republic for the defense of its territory, independence, nationhood, and also to other friendly countries so that peace may prevail in the world.

During the ceremony, Challe Siad also praised the former U.S. ambassador, Mr Petterson, who had worked tirelessly to strengthen relations between the two countries of Somalia and the United States. The Somali Democratic Republic president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, assured the new U.S. envoy to the Somali Democratic Republic that the government and people of Somalia will give him every assistance to enable him to effectively carry out his duties.

Present during the occasion were senior officials from the Somali Democratic Republic Foreign Ministry, the president's office and the U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu.

CHAD

NATIONALS EXPELLED FROM NIGERIA RETURN HOME

AB261622 Paris AFP in French 1527 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 26 Jan (AFP) -- Several hundred Chadians expelled from Nigeria arrived in Ndjamena on Wednesday after crossing Cameroon, observers in the Chadian capital noted.

Traveling in taxis hired at the Nigeria-Cameroon border, these people first go to the Ndjamena central police station where the police "register" them. Thereafter, they may return to their homes. But most of them have neither homes nor relatives because some have been living in Nigeria for several years.

Many of them arrived in Chad carrying only sleeping bags or small bundles.

In Ndjamena an estimated several thousand Chadian nationals could be affected by the decision by the Nigerian authorities to expel all alien workers "living illegally" in Nigeria.

In addition to the acute housing problem in Ndjamena, the influx of Chadians from Nigeria will certainly cause other social problems because neither humanitarian organizations working in Chad nor the political authorities expected such a situation.

FRANCE WRITES OFF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LOANS

AB242026 Paris AFP in French 1833 GMT 24 Jan 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 24 Jan (AFP) -- The French Government has written off the loans granted by the central fund for economic cooperation to Chad in the form of public assistance, it was learned on Monday in Ndjamena.

The revocation of these debts, amounting to 4,786,625,221 CFA francs, is limited to loans given to various state companies and parastatals before 31 December 1978 and which have not been paid back "because of the circumstances" Chad has gone through. The Chadian companies in question are the Chad Cotton Company, the International Telecommunications Company of Chad, the Chadian banks, and the electric company of Chad.

In addition to this amount, the central fund will refund over 70 million CFA francs, the amount already paid to the central fund by the various companies prior to 30 December 1979.

CONGO

CAR FOREIGN AFFAIRS DELEGATION ARRIVES 25 JAN

AB251342 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 25 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The Central Africans and the Congolese, who have enormous cooperation potentialities, are trying to devise strategy capable of revising their cooperation in conformity with the Lagos plan and ensuring fruitful relations.

As evidence of the stable nature of cooperation between the CAR and the Congo, I should like to mention the arrival in Brazzaville last night of an important CAR delegation headed by Louis Gervil-Gambala, CAR minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation.

BENIN

SERVICE ESTABLISHED TO WELCOME EXPELLEES

AB262044 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Communique issued by Permanent Committee following meeting in Cotonou on 26 January -- read by Information and Propaganda Minister Amidou Baba Moussa]

[Excerpt] Following a report by the minister of the interior and public security, the Permanent Committee of the National Executive Council has adopted a draft decree establishing a national welcome service charged with receiving and routing to their families or countries of origin all Beninese or aliens expelled from Nigeria.

GHANA

GOVERNMENT APPEALS TO NIGERIA ON REFUGEES

AB261835 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

["Important" Ghana Government statement on evacuation of Ghanaians from Nigeria, issued in Accra on 26 January]

[Text] Following persistent reports of molestation of Ghanaians in Nigeria including the seizure of their belongings by unscrupulous elements, the Government of Ghana has made strong representations to the Nigerian Government reminding Nigeria of their responsibility to ensure the liberty and safety of Ghanaians still in Nigeria awaiting evacuation. It is hoped that the Nigerian Government will make a public appeal to their citizens to exercise discipline and to desist from molesting defenseless and innocent Ghanaians.

Meanwhile, the Government of Ghana has taken note of the reports that the Nigerian Government has announced measures intended to introduce some flexibility in the program of the expulsion of aliens. These measures would seem to favor skilled Ghanaians and those of other nationalities as against the unskilled. It must be evident to those skilled Ghanaians who may wish to take advantage of those new measures that it will only be a matter of time before they are also expelled. As more and more Nigerians acquire skills, there will be the need to replace skilled Ghanaian personnel with Nigerians. It is therefore in the interest of all Ghanaians in Nigeria, whether skilled or unskilled, to take advantage now of the evacuation program which the government has been forced to mount at a most critical time and to leave for home.

The Government of Ghana is most unlikely to be willing to mount an evacuation exercise in the future in the interest of skilled Ghanaians who chose to remain behind since such efforts are greatly disruptive of the government's program of restructuring our society. It is not right for the country's development efforts to be disrupted from time to time as a result of the vicissitudes of Nigerian politics or the economic fortunes of that sisterly country.

The government would like to assure the general public that the evacuation exercise is well in hand and is proceeding steadily.

NIGERIA REFUSES LANDING RIGHTS TO AIRCRAFT

AB261855 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Reports reaching Accra indicate that Nigerian civil aviation authorities are refusing to grant landing rights to the foreign airlines which have decided to operate special charter flights from Lagos and Accra. This has hampered the evacuation of Ghanaians who have been given up to Monday to leave Nigeria.

A spokesman for one of the foreign airlines disclosed that the Nigerian authorities have intentionally put impediments in their way in order that their national airlines could monopolize the evacuation exercise but an official of Ghana Airways hinted that it would be better if the Ghana Government takes the matter up and negotiates on behalf of the foreign airlines.

Meanwhile, Ghana Airways has canceled all its domestic and west coast flights in order to speed up the evacuation exercise.

A report says about 10,000 Ghanaians returning from Nigeria have reached Lome following the Togolese Government's decision to reopen its borders with Benin to let them through. According to reliable sources, a ship sent by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] to bring back home thousands of Ghanaians stranded in Cotonou has now arrived there.

Asko Fisheries Limited has pledged to give any logistic support that will be needed in the evacuation exercise. This is in lieu of the unavailability of any of the company's vessels to participate in the exercise due to technical problems. This was disclosed by a spokesman for the company in an interview with the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] at Tema today. The spokesman was commenting on an appeal by the Tema harbor area coordinating committee of WDC's [Workers Defense Committees] to the PNDC to approach the State Fishing Corporation and other fishing companies to place their vessels at the disposal of the evacuation task force. According to the spokesman, one of the vessels is at the moment under repairs at the drydock while the other is just not good for human transportation.

At the State Fishing Corporation, a spokesman told the GBC that the corporation has volunteered three boats for the exercise and two have already set sail. At Mankoadze, a spokesman said the company cannot be of any help at the moment because one of its ships is out of the country and the other one is discharging fish at the harbor.

'Hundreds' Arrive in Accra

AB262057 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Hundreds of Ghanaians who are being expelled from Nigeria have begun arriving at the Accra Airport in chartered planes under the evacuation exercise. Unlike those who came by sea last Monday, many of those who came by plane were able to bring in some of their belongings. They included teachers, agricultural technical officers, and experienced factory workers. Some of the returnees told newsmen that the modification of the expulsion order and the extension of the time for both the technical and professional grades is an attempt by the Nigerian authorities to ensure that Ghanaians who are manning key positions do not do things that will have adverse effects on the Nigerian economy.

Most of the evacuees said the government should appeal to the Nigerian authorities to allow some of their ships and other foreign airlines to take part in the evacuation exercise in order to beat the Monday deadline. So far, apart from Ghana Airways, only Nigerian-owned private airlines are operating special flights.

LIBERIA

NIGERIAN ENVOY ON REASONS FOR EXPULSIONS

AB262133 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The Nigerian ambassador accredited to Liberia, Mr Edward Martins, has been speaking about his government's position on the expulsion of illegal immigrants from Nigeria. Ambassador Martins told LBS [Liberian Broadcasting System] news today that the move was taken because of overcrowdedness which could lead to some social problems, he said. The Nigerian envoy, who is doyen of the diplomatic corps, said his government's decision to repatriate illegal immigrants does not contravene the policy of the economic community of West African states, ECOWAS, on the free movement of persons in the region. He pointed out that the policy did not allow nationals of ECOWAS to enter countries without travel documents. Ambassador Martins also said that the governments of nationals being affected by the expulsion had been informed prior to the move through diplomatic channels. The Nigerian envoy said this country is one of the first countries to adhere to the policy of ECOWAS.

NIGERIA

LAGOS POLICE BAN DEMONSTRATIONS FOR 2 WEEKS

AB261600 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The Lagos state police command has banned all public meetings and processions without permit for 2 weeks. The state commissioner of police, Alhaji Maman Nasarawa, announced yesterday that all students' demonstrations out of their campuses were also banned with immediate effect. He said that the order follows student demonstrations yesterday in which innocent citizens were molested.

According to the commissioner, some students involved in the illegal demonstrations have been arrested. Alhaji Maman assured the public that the police had made adequate security arrangements to ensure peace in Lagos.

PRESIDENT SHAGARI ARRIVES IN NEW DELHI 25 JAN

For Delhi coverage of President Shagari's visit to India, see the India section of the 26 January South Asia DAILY REPORT and sebsequent issues.

SENEGAL

DIOUF EXPRESSES CONCERN AT NIGERIAN EXPULSIONS

AB261139 Paris AFP in French 1054 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Dakar, 26 Jan (AFP) -- At a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf expressed his concern over the Nigerian decision to expel nationals of some African countries, one of which is Senegal.

According to an official statement, Abdou Diouf directed that all should be done to ensure the protection of Senegalese nationals who have legally settled in Nigeria and the transportation of the Senegalese affected by the expulsion order in order to enable them to return to Senegal under satisfactory conditions.

The number of Senegalese nationals affected by the expulsion order was not officially stated.

TOGO

EYADEMA PERMITS REFUGEES TO CROSS COUNTRY

AB261950 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Ghanaian refugees from Nigeria can now use the Lome-Cotonou-Lagos international road to return to Accra. They were given the authorization to this effect by President Gnassingbe Eyadema after consultations with his Beninese counterpart President Mathieu Kerekou.

For humanitarian reasons, President Eyadema, who believes that the repatriation of the Ghanaian refugees by air and by sea would be too costly for the brotherly Ghanaian Government, has asked Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings to send his interior and his foreign ministers to Lome to examine with their Togolese counterparts the appropriate measures to facilitate the trip of Ghanaian convoys by road to Accra.

In this connection, President Eyadema has agreed with the Upper Voltan authorities [words indistinct] to give instructions so that the necessary assistance will be accorded to the Upper Voltan nationals in transit on our national territory because African solidarity, particularly in our subregion, must be fully demonstrated at this time when the people of our countries need (?everyone's) support. President Eyadema has thus taken the necessary measures for the current repatriation exercise of aliens living in Nigeria in addition to the moves he made which led to the softening of the expulsion order by the Nigerian authorities, with the view of avoiding unforseeable consequences in the exercise. In this connection, the head of state recently sent the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation to Lagos. [passage indistinct]

CAPE VERDE REFUSES COMMENT ON RSA-ANGOLA TALKS

AB261541 Paris AFP in French 1424 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Praia, 26 Jan (AFP) -- The Praia authorities have categorically refused to make any comment on the reports concerning negotiations between Angolan and South African delegations in Cape Verde on Namibia.

It was learned on Wednesday in Praia from informed sources that a top South African official, Adrien Exsteen, would arrive during the day on Sal Island where he would meet an Angolan delegation (whose members are unknown), but there was no official confirmation.

On Sal Island, 250 km north of Praia, the first Angolan-South Africa meeting took place on 8 December 1982. In fact, Sal Island has an international airport where South African airlines headed for Europe and America stop over. It is very likely, although no indication has been given, that the second Angolan-South African meeting will take place in Sal.

During the first round of talks, the Angolan delegation led by Lieutenant Colonel Xandre Rodrigues "Kito," minister of the interior, and the South African delegation led by Pik Botha, minister of foreign affairs, discussed the problem of the withdrawal of SWAPO and Cuban troops from Angola (approximately 20,000 men, according to Western sources) and the establishment of a cease-fire, observers say.

The Cape Verdian Government has not commented on the outcome of these talks. As a top Cape Verdian civil servant told the AFP, Cape Verde is only the host country in this affair. It is not a mediator and is (?not involved) in the negotiations between Angola and South Africa. It is therefore these two countries and these two alone that must make statements if they feel it necessary. Official sources add that Cape Verde does not want to and cannot comment on negotiations over an issue which is obviously delicate.

For the same reason, Cape Verdian officials have refused to make any comment on the information reported in Lisbon to the effect that South Africa and Angola have reached an agreement on a cease-fire and on the withdrawal of Cuban troops and SWAPO to about 200 km north of the border between Namibia and Angola.

The same sources emphasize, however, that it was through the initiative of Aristides Pereira, president of the Cape Verdian Republic that the first Sal meeting, which marked the beginning of direct contacts between Angola and South Africa, took place.

ANGOLA

ANGOP REPORTS OPENING OF U.S.-ANGOLA TALKS

AB261757 Luanda ANGOP in French 1745 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda, 26 Jan (ANGOP) -- The U.S. delegation led by Nicholas Platt, ambassador to Zambia, which arrived in Luanda yesterday, this morning began talks with an Angolan delegation led by Venancio da Moura, deputy minister of external relations.

According to an official source, the talks between the two delegations are centered on the political situation in Namibia, on matters of common interest and other issues related to security in Southern Africa.

In a statement to the press on his arrival on Tuesday at the 4 de Fevereiro International Airport, Nicholas Platt said that the United States and Angola share the same desire to restore peace and stability in that region (Southern Africa).

CONSTRUCTION DISCUSSED WITH CUBAN DELEGATION

MB261321 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Talks] Talks between Angola and Cuba in the field of construction have started in Luanda this morning. The Angola delegation is headed by Manuel Mangueira, minister of construction, and it includes Amilcar Aguiar, the deputy minister of construction and housing; the national director of town planning and construction; and the director of the planning department. The Cuban delegation is headed by Levi Farah, minister of foreign construction, and it includes Mario Abreu, adjunct to the minister of foreign construction; the national director of the Cuban Construction Company; the director of the Cuban National Bank; the deputy director of the Cuban Construction Company; and the company's head of personnel and deployment.

Speaking at the start of the talks Minister Manuel Mangueira said that a broader cooperation agreement is expected to be signed by the two delegations.

The heads of the two delegations will visit the Huambo and Benguela Provinces on 28 January. Minister Levi Farah, who will remain in Angola until 31 January, is expected to meet with the Angolan industry and energy ministers.

SOLIDARITY MEETING WITH SOVIET KOMSOMOL OPENS

MB270800 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Yesterday in Luanda Comrade Roberto de Almeida, acting secretary of the Central Committee's ideological department, presided over the opening session of a solidarity meeting between the Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [JMPLA], and the Leninist Komsomol of the Soviet Union. The visiting Soviet delegation headed by (Vuslov Avolyeshin), member of the Komsomol Central Committee, as well as JMPLA leaders and guests were present at the opening session, which took place at the Karl Marx cinema.

Comrade Roberto de Almeida described the meeting as yet another example of the Komsomol's support for and solidarity with the JMPLA. He spoke of the destruction and material losses suffered by our country as a result of the attacks by the racist South Africans and their lackeys. The attacks have been aimed at economic targets and designed to intimidate the population so that they will cease their support and solidarity toward SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people, Roberto de Almeida said. Regarding this matter, Comrade Roberto de Almeida referred to the examples of bravery shown by the Angolan youth, who are guaranteeing the defense of our revolutionary gains on the battlefront safeguarding the economy of the People's Republic of Angola. Comrade Roberto de Almeida also spoke about the youth of the countries still under the oppression who are taking part in the struggle against the antipopular regimes and striving for disarmament and peace on earth.

NAMIBIA

NUJOMA SAYS U.S. AIDING NEOCOLONIAL SOLUTION

PM261237 Paris LE MONDE in French 25 Jan 83 p 6

[Interview with SWAPO Chairman Sam Nujoma by Jean-Pierre Langellier in Lusaka on 20 January]

[Text] Lusaka -- "The Mitterrand administration is playing a double game with regard to Namibia," South-West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] Chairman Sam Nujoma stated. In an interview granted to LE MONDE in Lusaka on Thursday, 20 January, the Namibian leader expressed surprise at the "strange position" of the four Western countries -- France, Britain, the FRG, and Canada -- associated with the United States within the contact group with regard to the main obstacle to a negotiated settlement: the "linkage" established by Pretoria and Washington between the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola and the pursuit of the process leading to Namibian independence.

"Of course," Mr Nujoma told us, "we appreciated the fact that Mr Mauroy, in his speech to the UN General Assembly in September, asserted his country's opposition to the linkage, but French technicians are still working in South Africa and helping it to produce Panhard tanks and Mirage aircraft. France is still supplying spare parts for the racist regime's Alouette, Puma and Super-Frelon aircraft. We are asking the French Government and people to impose economic sanctions on Pretoria. France's statements should lead to specific actions."

Mr Nujoma was even harsher toward the other members of the "contact group." "Of course," he stressed, "they do not officially support the linkage theory but, as President Kaunda (Zambia) said, their silence on this point amounts to support for the U.S. and South African positions." But, in Mr Nujoma's view, the United States obviously bears the most responsibility for the deadlock on Namibia. "During his election campaign and afterward, President Reagan stated that his foreign policy would be based on the struggle against terrorists, especially in El Salvador and Namibia. He cited those two countries in particular. We are now experiencing that policy."

"The departure of Cuban troops from Angola, posed as a precondition for a settlement is unacceptable," Mr Nujoma added. "The People's Republic of Angola is a sovereign state and Namibia is a colony. The two problems are, therefore, completely separate. If the United States is so anxious to see the Cubans leave Angola it should negotiate directly with the Republic of Cuba which is only 150 km from its coast, or with the Republic of Angola without involving the Namibian question. But if it wants to tackle this question with the rest of the "gang of five" it must make do with encouraging implementation of Security Council Resolution 435."

"We agreed to negotiate with the United States," the SWAPO leader continued, "because we think that it is in the best position to exert pressure on the South African regime. We now see that it is not respecting Resolution 435 and is thus undermining UN authority. Indeed it is trying to exclude the United Nations from the independence process. It wants to help South Africa to implement a neocolonial solution based on bantustans in Namibia."

Mr Nujoma also criticizes U.S. silence on the voting method applicable to the elections which will precede Namibian independence. "Mr Chester Crocker told me in Bonn last June that the Western countries had abandoned the 'one man, two votes' plan. But so far neither the Americans nor the South Africans have revealed what electoral system they advocate. SWAPO is still ready to accept one of the two democratic systems, either proportional representation or uninominal voting.... However, we prefer proportional representation because the second voting method will require a procedure which will delay accession to independence in at least 1 year.

However, Mr Nujoma did not condemn the initiative taken by Zambian President Kaunda, who met South African Prime Minister Botha last April in the hope of achieving progress in the Namibian settlement. He had not been informed of that planned meeting in advance but, he pointed out, "Zambia is a sovereign state." "Moreover we too are leaving the door wide open to direct or indirect negotiations with South Africa. If there is a chance of negotiating a settlement leading to real independence for Namibia, we will seize it. The war is being forced on us," he said.

Turning to the military situation in the field, Mr Nujoma stated that the South African Army "is liquidating Namibian civilians in what it calls operational zones." "A curfew is in force from 1800 to 1000 hours," he pointed out. The Army is mining village paths used by ordinary peasants. The South African regime seems to have reached the conclusion that every Namibian is a guerrilla. It is behaving like a wounded lion doomed to fall."

SOUTH AFRICA

NAVAL OFFICER, WIFE SUSPECTED AS SOVIET SPIES

MB?61445 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Pieter Botha has announced that Commander D. Gerardt, a senior officer of the South African Navy, and his wife are being held on allegations of spying for the Soviet Union. Commander Gerardt and his wife are being held for questioning under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. At a special news conference in Cape Town Mr Botha said that the South African intelligence services were jointly giving high-level attention to the investigation and that all relevant evidence and facts would be submitted to the attorney general as soon as possible.

The prime minister said that Commander Gerardt is a South African citizen and that he is attached to the shipyard at Simonstown. Mr Botha said that because the matter is still being investigated, he is not prepared to elaborate at this stage.

Louis le Grange, the minister of law and order, and General Magnus Malan, the minister of defense, also attended the news conference.

Mr Botha was asked what Commander Gerardt has done. He replied that it is believed that Commander Gerardt has worked in the interests of a foreign country, and after briefly consulting with Mr Le Grange Mr Botha said that this foreign country could be identified as the Soviet Union.

Soviets Decline Comment

MB261838 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1800 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The Soviet Embassy in London has refused comment on the detention of two South Africans for allegedly spying for Russia. The embassy had been approached for comment in the detention of Commodore D. Gerardt and his wife Ruth. Soviet press attache (Nikolai Ospenski) has told the South African Press Association news agency he had not heard of the detention. He said he had absolutely nothing to say. (Ospenski) added that the Soviet attitude to the South African Government is well-known.

Reactions Reported

MB270840 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The Soviet Embassy in London has refused to comment on the detention of a senior officer of the South African Navy, Commodore D.F. Gerardt, and his wife on charges of spying for the Soviet Union. A press attache, Mr (Nikolay Ospenskiy), told SAPA that this was the first time he had heard of the matter.

He added that he had absolutely nothing to say and that the Russian attitude to the South African Government was well known.

Back in South Africa, the opposition spokesman on defense, Mr (Philip Meiberg), said it had come as a tremendous shock that a senior officer in the South African Navy had been detained on charges of having spied for Russia. He expressed the hope that the case would be brought to trial as soon as the necessary investigations had been completed. Because of the person and the position held by Commodore Gerardt, who of necessity had been privy to a number of sensitive areas in the Navy and in the maritime defense networks, a speedy resolution of the case would do much to reassure the public that its security had not been irreparably compromised.

Mr (Meiberg) said the fact that Commodore Gerardt has been in the Navy for his entire working life and has risen to the rank he now holds raised worrying questions concerning security clearance procedures employed by the defense force. He said it highlighted the need for tighter security clearance procedures in future, and he added that he trusted that the responsible ministers would use the earliest opportunity in Parliament to explain how the situation had arisen.

The leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, said the law should now take its course and that it was necessary to introduce countermeasures to ensure that the present case was an isolated incident. He said that in the light of similar cases in Britain, the United States and elsewhere, there was now ample evidence of the effectiveness of the efficiency of the Soviet intelligence network and the importance of South Africa to it.

May Face Death Sentence

MB271130 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Jan 83 p 1

[By Chris Olckers]

[Text] The top naval officer arrested on charges of espionage could be shot by a military firing squad and his wife hanged if they are convicted of treason.

At a terse press conference in Cape Town yesterday afternoon, the prime minister, Mr Pik Botha, revealed that Commodore Dieter Gerardt, 27, Officer commanding of the Simonstown Naval Base, and his wife Ruth, 41, had been detained on charges of spying for Russia.

The commodore, whose naval rank is equivalent to that of a brigadier, has 31-years service with the Navy. He and his wife lived in Simonstown. They were arrested by South African intelligence authorities.

Law experts yesterday said that if the naval officer was convicted of treason, he could be shot.

"As an officer he could face the firing squad. In fact, if the couple are prosecuted, they could face anything from a R75 fine to the death sentence. It depends on whether they will be charged with treason, or under the Internal Security Act or the Protection of Information Act," one advocate said.

The last South African officer to die in front of a firing squad was Jopie Fourie, who was shot for his part in the 1914 rebellion against the government occupation of German South-West Africa.

He was executed on the orders of the then minister of defense, General Jan Smuts.

A Defense Force spokesman said Commodore Gerardt was born on November 10, 1935, while his wife was born on April 27, 1942.

Gerardt joined the SA Navy as a seaman on the 7th January 1952, he said.

In a statement issued after the press conference, the spokesman said no further information would be released.

"Such information will be submitted by the investigating officer to the attorney-general and the sub judice rule will be respected by the South African Defence Force."

A military and strategic studies experts said yesterday that Commodore Gerardt could have had access to highly sensitive material.

"It is known that the SADF operates on a "need-to-know" basis. As OC of the Simonstown base, he would most probably have had access to classified material."

"If the allegations of spying are proved to be true, it would not be a new thing for a couple to have been involved. The East Germans are specialists in this field -- be it husband and wife team or a man and his mistress," he said.

An acquaintance of Commodore Gerardt, who did not want to be identified, described him as very popular among his fellow officers.

Chris Marais reports that Commodore Gerardt's daughter Anna committed suicide in 1979 shortly after joining the SA Navy.

A mother of one of Anna's schoolfriends told THE MAIL the young naval volunteer had been a "beautiful but unhappy girl."

U.S. ENVOY DISCUSSES NAMIBIA WITH DE CUELLAR

MB270836 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The South African ambassador to the United States, Dr Brand Fourie, has held discussions on South-West Africa with the UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, at the UN headquarters in New York. Dr Fourie told our Washington correspondent that had conveyed to Mr Perez de Cuellar South Africa's position on South-West Africa talks in particular and southern African issues in general. Dr Fourie gave no further details.

Mr Perez de Cuellar is to visit seven African countries soon, and the South-West African independence issue will be one of the main topics of discussion with the leaders of Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

Yesterday's meeting, held at Mr Perez de Cuellar's request, was attended by the charge d'affaires of the South African mission at the United Nations, Mr (Leo Conradie).

RADIO COMMENTARY ON NAMIBIAN DEVELOPMENTS

MB261710 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Station commentary: "New Developments on South-West Africa"]

[Text] Optimism about a breakthrough on the South-West African issue is premature. Nevertheless the complex scene is clearing.

The first prize for South-West Africa, as it is for all of Southern Africa and the West, remains an internationally acceptable independence settlement. Winning the prize demands the removal of the 30,000 Cuban soldiers in Angola whose presence negates the objectives of fair elections in the territory and stability for it and the region as a whole. For those reasons Pretoria and Washington insist that eliminating the presence is the first essential step towards building any framework for agreement. And to the extent that they can help to achieve it, the Cape Verde talks, American Ambassador Nick Platt's visit to Luanda and even UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's tour of Southern African capitals will bring the prize measurably closer.

The need to remove the Cuban obstacle has been stressed by all parties. Indeed the United States according to its spokesmen regards it as a prerequisite in its own right, quite apart from its relevance to South-West Africa for securing regional stability and Western interests in Southern Africa. Regional security is the official reason given for Ambassador Platt's talks with the Angolan Government.

From Southern African leaders Mr Perez de Cuellar is likely to receive the same message as that conveyed to Vice President George Bush on his recent African tour. Public condemnation of linking a Cuban withdrawal with the South-West African settlement coupled with privately expressed support for the withdrawal initiative. Beset as they are by political and economic troubles, the region's leaders are intensely aware of the need to remove a main source of disruption and secure greater Western involvement in their affairs.

As for Angola, party purges and the talks with America and South Africa are evidence of the urgency of its present dilemma as it continues to bleed an impoverished economy to pay out $2 million a day on the Cubans while fighting an unwinnable war with UNITA.

These are powerful forces backing the initiative, and the events of this week are indications that they are effectively in motion. The forces opposing them, coordinating Soviet designs on Southern Africa, should not be underestimated. Optimism and appropriate action must await the outcome of the current developments.

ONE KILLED IN PORT ELIZABETH BOMB BLAST

NC262114 Paris AFP in English 2109 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Port Elizabeth, South Africa, Jan 26 (AFP) -- One man was killed and seven others injured today when a bomb exploded at the non-white community council here, the South African Press Agency reported.

The agency said the dead man may have been the one who planted the bomb. They said his hands and head were torn away.

The charge went off in the office of the council's director.